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S E C O N D
R E P O R T

J.S.

FROM THE *Archdeacon*

SELECT COMMITTEE,

APPOINTED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION

THE STATE OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF
JUSTICE IN THE PROVINCES OF

BENGAL, BAHAR, and ORISSA.

Printed in the Year M.DCC.LXXXII.

STATE OF

REPORT

FROM THE

COMMISSIONERS



SELECTED

APPROVED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION

THE STATE OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE AFFAIRS IN THE PROVINCE OF

BENGAL, RAJASTHAN, AND ORISSA

Printed in the year 1861

S E C O N D

R E P O R T

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE,

Appointed to take into Consideration the State of the Administration of Justice in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and to report the same, as it shall appear to them, to the House, with their Observations thereupon; and who were instructed to consider how the British Possessions in the East Indies may be held and governed with the greatest Security and Advantage to this Country, and by what Means the Happiness of the Native Inhabitants may be best promoted.

WHILST your Committee were diligently pursuing the Orders of the House, Advices were received from India of an Event that claimed their immediate Attention, which was the Expulsion of Rajah Cheyt Sing.

Your Committee find that Cheyt Sing, Rajah of Benares and Gazypoor, was, upon the Death of his Father, Rajah Bulwant Sing, at the particular Request of the President and Council of Bengal, confirmed by Treaty in the Possession of those Zemindaries by the Vizier Sujah Dowlah, to whom he was Tributary.

That upon the Death of the Vizier Sujah Dowlah, in 1775, the Governor General and Council of Bengal concluded a Treaty with Mirzy Amany, the Son and Successor of Sujah; by which the Zemindaries of Benares and Gazypoor were surrendered in Perpetuity to the English Company, subject to the entire Rule and Management of Rajah Cheyt Sing as heretofore, on Condition of his paying the same Tribute to the English Company which he formerly paid to the Nabob of Oude, and which Tribute amounted to near £260,000 *per Annum*.

The Expulsion of a Rajah of the highest Rank from his Dominions; a Rajah who paid the largest Tribute into the Treasury, whose Possessions are secured to him not only by the Faith of public Treaties, but in consideration of Services performed by his Ancestor to our Nation; a Rajah who, ever since he became the Tributary of the Company, punctually performed his Engagements, and very seldom suffered any just Balance to remain beyond the stated Time of Payment—Your Committee were of Opinion, that they could in no Point more essentially perform their Duty than by entering into an immediate Investigation of the Causes which gave rise to this extraordinary Event.

And

And in order to shew the Origin of our Connection and Alliance with Bulwant Sing, Rajah of Benares and Gazypoor, and with Cheyt Sing, his Son and Successor, Your Committee have thought proper to submit to the House such Documents as they find in the public Records of the Company; concluding this Report with the Two Narratives of the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, of the 18th of August and the 29th of September, from Benares, to Edward Wheler, Esquire, a Member of the Council General at Calcutta, and by him transmitted to the Court of Directors.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 29th March 1764.

Received a Letter from Major Carnac, dated the 18th Instant, enclosing One he has received from Shitabroy, to which he refers us for Information of Shuja Dowla's Intention against us; and expressing his Concern to find, that by the Advices from Calcutta of the 8th, the Reinforcement under the Command of Captain Pemble had not yet begun their March, that their being so late renders it next to impossible for them to join him in Time, and that he must therefore put every Thing to Risk with the Force he has at present, however little to be depended on after what has passed; further advising us, that he would fain cross the Carumnassa, and give the Enemy a Meeting as far as possible from the Boundary, but that he fears the Distress they are in for Provisions, being only supplied from Day to Day, will not permit his doing so, and that he shall be obliged to keep close by the Ganges to secure a Conveyance by Water, having had Intimation that the Enemy's Design was to hover at a Distance around them, and endeavour to cut off their Supplies: That a Treaty of Alliance has been some Time in Agitation between the Nabob and Bulwant Sing, the Rajah of Benares: That the Nabob is now very anxious for its being brought to a Conclusion, and proposed to him that Evening setting his Seal thereto on the Part of the English, without which the Rajah will not enter into any Engagement; that he shall be very unwilling to take a Step of such a Nature without first knowing whether it be agreeable to us, but that the present Exigency will not admit the Delay of waiting our Answer.

A Translation of Shitabroy's Letter to the Major being here read;

Ordered it be entered in the Books of Country Correspondence.

Having duly considered this Letter of Major Carnac's, we are unanimously of Opinion, that as Shuja Dowla has now openly espoused the Cause of Cossim Ally Cawn, and encourages his Design of an Invasion into Bengal, we can entertain no further Thoughts of entering into a Treaty with him. On the contrary, we think it our Duty to form against him all the Enemies we possibly can; that the proposed Alliance with Bulwant Sing will therefore be a very proper Measure, and prove as well now, as in all Times to come, a strong Barrier and Defence to the Bengal Provinces.

Agreed therefore, That we write to Major Carnac, advising him, That we shall approve entirely of his entering into the intended Treaty in concert with the Nabob, and of his engaging to protect and maintain Bulwant Sing independent, both now and hereafter.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 26th April 1764.

Received two Letters from Major Carnac, dated the 9th and 17th Instant; the former repeating and explaining fully the Reasons which determined him to cross the Soane, and retire towards Patna, and advising us that he is now convinced, from Bulwant Sing's Behaviour, of which the Major gives us an Account, that his proposed Alliance with us, was only a concerted Scheme to draw us further on, and so favour Shuja Dowla's Design of getting between our Army and Patna.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th June 1764.

That we are determined to prosecute the war against Shuja Dowla; and being of Opinion, that the Rains will not be any Impediment to the Operations, but on the contrary, with regard to receiving Provisions and Stores, rather a Convenience, from the Advantage of the Rivers, we hereby direct, that he do immediately put the Army in Motion, leaving the necessary Garrisons in Patna and Mongheer, and cross the Soane, and pursue the Enemy as far as the Ganges, opposite to Benares, endeavouring, if possible, to bring them to an Action. That in any Operations on the other Side of the River, it is our View to make as much Advantage as we can, without lessening greatly the Strength of our Army by the Detachment that is sent: That they may therefore endeavour to take possession of the Gauzypoor Country, and collect its Revenues to assist in defraying the Expences of the War: That we desire the Officer commanding may be instructed, and that it may also be observed as a general Rule on all other Occasions, to prevent any Ravages being committed on the Country, or Injuries being done to the Inhabitants; on the contrary, that all Manner of Encouragement and Protection be given them, in order to gain their Affections.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 25th June 1764.

Received a Letter from Major Carnac, dated the 16th Instant, acquainting us, that the Detachment he ordered over the Ganges, has procured the Effect he expected from it; for, upon Advice of their having crossed the Dewa, and began Hostilities in the Districts of Gauzypoor, Shuja Dowla has judged it necessary to retire towards his own Country.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 28th June 1764.

That we are resolved to continue the War against Shuja Dowla, until he submits to the Conditions we have prescribed; viz. the Delivery of Meer Coffim, Sombre, and our Deserters: That the Object therefore of the Detachment on the North Side of the Ganges, must be to prevent Shuja Dowla from crossing the River, by destroying any Bridges he has made or may attempt to make over it, taking Possession at same Time of as large a Tract of his Country as they can, and, if possible, of the City of Benares, and collecting the Revenues; but avoiding all Manner of Plunder and Ravage, particularly should the Detachment advance so far as to seize the City of Benares, especial Care must be taken that no Plunder is committed there.

Extract of a Letter of Instructions to Major Hector Munro, dated 6th November 1764.

As Shuja Dowla has all along refused to submit to the reasonable Terms we demanded of him, and at last put the Whole to the Risk of a general Engagement, in which our Arms have been attended with such signal Success, we think it just and necessary to require for the Company some Cession and Compensation for this Risk, and the great Expence of the War in which he has engaged us.

With respect to Bulwant Sing, the Rajah of Benares, and Zemindar of the Gauzypoor Country, the double Part he acted in the Beginning of the War, sufficiently warns us to put no Confidence in him; and therefore, if he has not already been permitted to join you, or you have entered into no Engagements with him, we would have him dispossessed of his Country, and his Person, if possible, secured.

It has always been the Rule of our Conduct to conciliate the Affections of the People in the Countries where we have made War, and prevent, to the utmost of our Power, all Manner of Plunder and Destruction. This we must recommend to your strict Observance; and think it the rather necessary on this Occasion, as the City of Benares, being reputed a Place of great Wealth, may be a Temptation to the Sepoys; and it would give us a particular Concern, were any Mischief committed in a Place which is so much respected for its Antiquity, and held sacred in the Eyes of the whole Country.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 21st November 1764.**Translation of a Proposal from Rajah Bulwang Sing, by Soochet Roy, to Major Munro, with the Major's Answer.*

Proposal.—If you, Gentlemen, choose to possess yourselves of Shuja ul Dowla's Country, I will agree to hold the Sircars of Benares and Gauzypoor, and Jaunpoor, and Bejeigur, &c. on the same Terms as I hold them from Shuja ul Dowlah, and I have commissioned Rajah Shitabroy to settle this Matter for me. I will besides take upon myself the Management of Auzingurra, and Two or Three other Districts, paying the customary Rents; and I request that you will give me the Sunnuds for them, and let me possess which was given to me Rent-free, as usual.

Answer.—For the present the Sunnuds shall be granted you, and you shall be established in the Territories till the Conclusion of the Negotiation with Shuja ul Dowla.

Translation of a Letter delivered by Rajah Shitabroy, the 16th November 1764.

Rajah Bulwand Sing has written to me as follows: "If it is the Intention of the English Gentlemen to take Possession of Shuja ul Dowla's Dominions, I will agree to hold Benares and Gauzypoor, &c. which have long been under my Jurisdiction, the Revenues of which amount to about 24 Lacks of Rupees a Year, and I paid 170,000 Rupees Monthly, on the same Terms from the Company as I did from Shuja ul Dowla." He likewise desires, "That in case the English Army should march forwards to conquer the Country, the Districts of Auzingurra and Coonda, &c. which are near to Benares, and be very convenient for him, may be added to his Jurisdiction." As the Rajah is a Man who adheres to his Engagements, and pays his Rents regularly, if it is your Pleasure to take the Country, let the Management of the aforefaid Territories be committed to his Charge; and in case of an Accommodation with Shuja ul Dowla, yet let a favourable Answer be written to the Rajah, to set his Mind at Ease; he is a Person of high Rank, and the Zemindar of a frontier Country.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 26th November 1764.

Received a Letter from Patna, dated the 15th Instant, acknowledging the Receipt of ours of the 6th, and advising us, that Messrs. Billers and Dacres were in consequence preparing to set out to collect the Revenues of the Districts which we may take possession of; also requesting, if the Army should proceed further, that we will order a sufficient Force to be stationed at Benares, for their better Security in that Business.

Agreed, we do write them in Answer, That should our Instructions to Major Munro occasion his advancing further than Benares, he will no doubt leave such a Force as may be necessary for collecting the Revenues: Further advising them of our having appointed an Establishment for this Service from hence; that Mr. Marriott will accordingly set out in a Day or two, and upon his Arrival Messrs. Billers and Dacres are to deliver over to him the Charge of the Business, and return to Patna; and that in the mean Time they will proceed upon the Instructions we have given to Mr. Marriott and his Council, of which we enclose them a Copy.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th December 1764.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council to the Commander in Chief, dated 6th December 1764.

With regard to Bulwand Sing, we shall adhere to the Terms which you may have thought it necessary to make with him; but it is our View, so far as it can be done consistently with your Engagements, to have the Power and Authority over this Rajah, and his Zemindaries vested in the Company, by Sunnuds from the King, holding them under him with the same Rights, and in as full a Manner as enjoyed by Shuja Dowlah; and that the whole Rents, so collected, shall be appropriated for the Use of the Company, and wrote off from the Books of the King's Revenues.

With respect to the Agreements entered into by the Inhabitants of Benares, for the Ransom of the City; we are glad that such an Opportunity has offered of obtaining a Reward to the Army for the very signal Service which they have rendered the Company, as well as a Compensation for the Loss which they sustained of their Baggage, in the Action of the 23d of October, nor can we have any Objection to it on this particular Occasion; but as we would consider the Country not as a Conquest, but belonging to the King, whom we have engaged to support against the common Enemy, no future Consideration of this Kind should be demanded from the Inhabitants, or expected by the Army, but every Care taken to conciliate the Affections of the People.

Proposals made by the King Shah Alum, and inclosed in a Letter from Major Hector Munro to the President and Council at Bengal, dated from the Camp at Benares, the 22d of November 1764.

If this Country is to be kept, put me in possession of it, and leave a small Detachment of the Troops with me, to shew that I am protected by the English, and they shall be at my Expence; that if any Enemy come at any Time against me, I will make such Connections in the Country, that with my own Troops and the afore-mentioned small Detachment, will defend the Country, without any further Assistance from the English, and I will pay them of the Revenues of the Country what Sum they shall demand Yearly. If the English will, contrary to their Interest, make Peace with the Vizier, I will go to Delhi, for I cannot think of returning again into the Hands of a Man who has used me so ill: I have no Friends I depend on more than the English; their former Behaviour to me will make me ever respect and regard them; now is their Time to be in Possession of a Country abounding with Riches and Treasure; I shall be satisfied with whatever Share they please of it. The Rohillas were always Enemies to the imperious Vizier; they are all my Friends.

Articles to be executed by the King; enclosed in a Letter from the President and Council at Bengal to Major Hector Munro, Commander in Chief of the Army, sent the 6th of December 1764.

In consideration of the Assistance and Fidelity of the English Company, which has freed us from the Inconveniences we laboured under, and strengthened the Foundations of the Empire which God has given us, we have been graciously pleased to grant to the English Company our Royal Favours according to the following Articles, which shall remain firm both in present and in future:

As the English Company have been put to great Expence, and their Affairs exposed to Danger by the War with the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla unjustly, and contrary to our Royal Pleasure, waged against them; we have therefore assigned to them the Country of Gauze-poor, and the rest of the Zemindary of Bulwant Sing, belonging to the Nizamut of the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla: and the Regulation and Government thereof, we have given to their

their Disposál, in the same Manner as it was in the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla's. The aforesaid Rajah having settled Terms with the Chiefs of the English Company, is, according thereto, to pay the Revenues to the Company, and the Amount shall not belong to the Books of the Royal Revenue, but shall be expunged from them.

The Army of the English Company having joined our Standard, shall put us in Possession of the Illiabad, and the rest of the Countries belonging to the Nizamut of the Nabob Shujah Dowla; and the Revenues, excepting those of Rajah Bulwant's Zemindary, shall be in our entire Management and Disposál.

As the English Company will be at a further Expence in putting us in Possession of Illiabad, and the rest of the Nizamut of the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla, we will therefore, as we get Possession, grant to them out of our Treasury such a Proportion of the Revenues as the Exigencies of our Affairs will admit of; and when we are put in full Possession, we will reimburse the whole Expences of the Company in this Business from the Time of their joining our Royal Standard.

Firmaund executed by the King.

As the English Company have been put to great Expence, and their Affairs exposed to Danger, by the War which the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla unjustly, and contrary to our Royal Pleasure, waged against them, we have therefore assigned to them the Country of Gauzypoor and the rest of the Zemindary of Rajah Bulwant Sing belonging to the Nizamut of the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla; and the Regulation and Government thereof we have given to their Disposál, in the same Manner as it was in the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla's. The aforesaid Rajah having settled Terms with the Chiefs of the English Company, is according thereto to pay the Revenues to the Company.

The Army of the English Company having joined our Standard, shall put us in possession of Illiabad and the rest of the Countries belonging to the Nizamut of the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla; and the Revenues, excepting those of Rajah Bulwant's Zemindary, shall be in our entire Management and Disposál.

It becomes the Company to shew their grateful Sense of our Royal Favours, and to exert themselves to the utmost in the proper Management and Regulation of the Country; to encourage and befriend our Subjects, to punish the Contentions, and expel the Rebellious from their Territories: They must use their best Endeavours to promote the Welfare of our People, the Ryotts, and other Inhabitants; to prohibit the Use of Things of an intoxicating Nature, and such as are forbidden by the Law of God; in driving out Enemies, in deciding Causes and settling Matters agreeably to the Rules of Mahomed and the Law of the Empire; so that the Inhabitants may apply themselves, with Peace of Mind and Satisfaction, to the Cultivation of the Country, and the Exercise of other their Possessions, and that the Weak may not labour under Oppression and Violence. They will consider these as our strict Injunctions.

Written on the 4th Day of Rajeb, the 6th Year of the Reign, 29th December 1764.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th December 1764.

Extract of a Letter from the Commander in Chief to the Governor and Council, dated 22d November 1764.

As soon as the Army encamped here I sent into Town safe Guards, and gave out the strictest Orders against pillaging or plundering the Inhabitants, some of whom had left the Place through Fear, and some remained in Hopes of being protected. The Place is now full of Inhabitants, and the Merchants have promised Four Lacks of Rupees for the Protection given them.

He, the King, is to write immediately to the Chiefs of the Rohillas and all his Friends, not to join the Vizier; and assures, that if he once got Benibahadre and Bulwand Sing to come in, the Vizier would leave the Country immediately, and never make any Head again.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 27th December 1764.

Received a Letter from Messrs. Billers and Dacres, at Benares, acquainting us of their Arrival there the 8th Instant, and that on their Application to Major Munro, they found he had made an Agreement with Bulwand Sing to leave him with the Collection of the Revenues, on paying the Company the same Annual Sum he had before paid to the Vizier Shuja Dowla, and that Major Munro had made this Appointment to Bulwand Sing in consequence of the King's Request, and had thought proper to assign the First Payment of this Collection to his Majesty's Use, on account of his having no other immediate Support.

Extract

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 4th January 1765.**Extract of a Letter from Major Munro to Major Fletcher, dated 4th January 1765.*

You will see by the Letters from the Board, that the King is to be put in possession of whatever Part of this Country shall be conquered by our Arms, and the Management of it given to such as he pleases. I therefore called in Bulwant Sing at the Request of the King; but as he had offered his Services before that Time, or that I knew the Intentions of the Gentlemen of Calcutta of keeping the Country, I encouraged his coming in as much as possible, and upon his getting the Country as before, to collect the Revenues the same as he did for the Vizier, together with the King's. Sending Nabob Munier Dowla for him, he came in; and our Agreement with him for collecting the Revenues, has been since confirmed by the Board.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 17th January 1765.**Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Council to Major Munro and Mr. Marriott at Benares.*

As it is our Interest and Desire, that his Majesty should receive every Testimony of our Respect and Attachment, we cannot but approve of the appropriating such a Part of Bulwant Sing's Revenues as can be spared, from the Occasions of our own Army, to the Relief of his present distressed Circumstances: You will only observe to take from him the proper Receipts and Promissory Notes, that he will refund the same to the Company whenever he shall have Ability so to do.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 21st January 1765.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

Chas. Stafford Playdell,	} Esquires.
Ralph Leycester,	
John Burdett,	

Received a Letter from Major Carnac, dated Cossimbuzar, the 5th Instant; advising of his Arrival there the Day before, and that he should proceed on as fast as the Things which are of immediate Necessity for his Journey can keep pace with him; that he has Advice of Bulwant Sing's having eloped from our Army.

Agreed we write him in Answer, That with regard to the Intelligence he mentions to have received of Bulwant Sing's having left our Army, we suppose it must be entirely groundless, not having had any such ourselves, and that no Engagements have been made with him but such as is equally for his Interest as ours should be fulfilled.

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 28th January 1765.**Extract of a Letter from Sir Robert Fletcher to the Governor and Council, dated 14th January 1765.*

"I shall march this Night about Eleven o'Clock towards the Enemy, and shall not halt until I am in Shuja Dowla's Camp, though I fear we shall not be able to surprize him, as his Troops are distributed very properly to prevent it; however, I think he will not have Time to carry off his Baggage. He is Seven Coss from us, and Sombre is Eleven. I shall be happy if they will stand. A general Action in all Probability would bring back Bulwant Sing, as well as occasion the Surrender of Chunargur."

We do not observe any Answer received from Bulwant Sing to Major Fletcher's Letter, desiring him to return.

Received also a Letter from Mr. Marriott, dated the 12th Instant, advising of his Arrival with the Army the 2d; that in consequence of the Agreement made with Bulwant Sing, 90,000 Rupees had been paid out of the Collection of Revenues before his Arrival, but not any since. Also advising us, that Bulwant Sing's having left the Camp (as mentioned by Major Fletcher), was under Pretence of defending a Place where his Family was, which Shuja Dowla had sent a Party to attack; and that as he had not yet committed any Hostilities, they are in hopes he is at least neuter; that, however, he should do all in his Power to prevail on this Man to return, judging his Continuance with us of Consequence.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 21st March 1765.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable John Spencer, Esquire, President,
Charles Stafford Playdell, } Esquires.
George Gray,

Received, since our last Meeting, Three Letters from Mr. Marriott, Chief of Benares, dated the 18th, 22d, and 28th Ultimo; advising of Bulwant Sing's Return, and of his having, in Conjunction with General Carnac, settled with him for his Revenues to be paid the Company.

That on the Subject of the Agreement made with Bulwant Sing, and the Points therein referred to our Determination, we have not yet resolved any Thing.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 1st April 1765.

At a Consultation; PRESENT,

The Honourable John Spencer, Esquire, President,
Charles Stafford Playdell, Esquire;
Ralph Leycester, Esquire,
John Burdett, Esquire,
George Gray, Esquire.

Agreed also, That we do now write a Letter to the General and Mr. Marriott, on the Subject of the Agreement made by them with Bulwant Sing, as advised in their different Letters of the 18th, 22d, and 28th February, and 9th ultimo, That this man acted from the First so wavering a Part, that we expressed in our Instructions to Major Monro, after the Battle of Buxar, our Wish to have no Manner of Connection with him, but rather that his Person should be secured, and some other placed in his Zemindary who was more to be relied on; however, as the Major had, previous to the Receipt of these Instructions, admitted him to a Treaty, and received him on the Faith thereof, that we consented to abide by it: in this also he failed, and therefore it was our Intention to have trusted him no further; which Sentiment is also expressed by the General in his Letter of the 15th January from Cossimbuzar, where he points him out as One by no Means to be depended on. That this is sufficient to inspire us with the strongest Doubts of his Fidelity, and give but too much Cause to apprehend, if Shuja Dowla should again move this Way with any considerable Force, or our Army at any Time receive a Check, that he will be the first to break his Engagements in favour of the Enemy; and as his Situation will always place him between our Provinces and our Enemy, he may be able to do us much Mischief, if allowed to keep up a Force. That after Bulwant Sing, in Violation of his Treaty, had deserted our Army, it was, as before observed, our Wish that the Country had been placed in the Hands of some Persons on whose Fidelity we might at least have had some Dependence, and whose Troops might have been an Addition to our own Strength in case of a Renewal of War; but, as it appears that Bulwant Sing has again been received back on the Faith of Promises made by them, that we shall abide by them, though we wish none had been made till our Sentiments had been known: That we can now only recommend that a strict Eye be kept upon his Conduct and Correspondence, and that he be not allowed to maintain such a Body of Forces as may on any Occasion be detrimental to us. That at the Time we say this, we are willing to give up those Articles amounting to Rupees 2,28,306. 10. which were left undetermined by them, in hopes of making it his Interest to remain faithful, by the Advantages he will reap from his Connection with us, the Security that we look for from extending our Frontiers being a greater Object than any Encrease of our Revenues.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th June 1765.

At a Select Committee; PRESENT,

Harry Verelst, } Esquires.
Francis Sykes, }
Mr. Sumner indisposed.

Letters from General Carnac, of the 26th and 27th Ultimo, advising, That Shuja Dowla, as his last Resource, had thrown himself upon our Generosity, and was now actually in Camp, ready to receive such Terms of Peace as we shall prescribe. And this appearing to the Committee a favourable Opportunity for establishing the Tranquillity of
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the Country on a permanent Foundation, by stipulating no other Conditions than such as shall appear to be for the mutual Interests of the contracting Parties, equitable in themselves, and evidently calculated for the public Benefit.

Resolved, That the General's Letter be acknowledged, his Sentiments approved, and the following Instructions sent to him, for settling preliminary Articles with Shuja Dowla; which he is not to conclude definitively until Lord Clive's Arrival in Camp.

Bulwant Sing to be secured in the Possession of his Country, Nudjuff Cawn to be restored to the Possession of his former Dominions, and all those who either joined or assisted the English, to be favoured and encouraged.

The King's Honour, Safety, and Subsistence to be consulted.

Cosim Aly, Sombre, and the Deserters, to be demanded, or put to Death by Shujah Dowla himself; but this last Article not to be considered as essential, though obtaining it would be agreeable; it being the Opinion of the Committee, he should be engaged to our Interest by the Ties of Gratitude, and not by Compulsion.

To acquaint the General, that full Powers will be given to Lord Clive, in Conjunction with him, to settle every Thing as they shall think proper and necessary to the Stability of the intended Peace; also to desire he would use his Influence to prevail with the Vizier to shorten Lord Clive's Journey, and meet his Lordship at Benares or Patna.

Extracts of the Treaty between the Nabob Shuja ul Dowla, the Nabob Nudjum ul Dowla, and the English Company, executed at Illiabad the 16th of August 1765.

Article 5.

His Highness Shujah ul Dowla engages, in the most solemn Manner, to continue Bulwant Sing in the Zemindaries of Benares, Gauzepoor, and all those Districts he possessed at the Time he came over to the late Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan and the English, on Condition of his paying the same Revenue as heretofore.

Article 7.

It being firmly resolved, to restore to his Highness the Country of Benares and the other Districts now rented by Bulwant Sing, notwithstanding the Grant of the same from the King to the English Company, it is therefore agreed, that they shall be ceded to his Highness in Manner following; viz. They shall remain in the Hands of the English Company, with their Revenues, till the Expiration of the Agreement between Bulwant Sing and the Company, being on the 27th of November next; after which his Highness shall enter into Possession, the Fort of Chunar excepted, which is not to be evacuated until the 6th Article of this Treaty be fully complied with.

Article 9.

All the Relations and Subjects of his Highness, who in any Manner assisted the English during the Course of the late War, shall be forgiven, and no ways molested for the same.

Extract of a separate General Letter from Bengal to the Court of Directors, dated 11th September 1770.

Par. 2. We have just received Advices of the Death of Rajah Bulwand Sing, who died at Benares the 23d Ultimo, after a short Indisposition of some Hours.——A few Months ago the Rajah had gone through a long and painful Sickness, of which he had apparently recovered; and, barring his old Age, and the Infirmities incident to it, he was far from being considered in any immediate Danger.——In our former Letter, Gentlemen, we expressed our Sentiments of the Consequence it was to your Affairs, that the Succession to the Zemindary of Benares should continue in the Family, but that it was a delicate Point to accomplish with the Vizier. A Regard to your Interest has long made it our Wish; but the doubtful Conduct of the Vizier has for some Time made it an unreasonable Measure. The Occasion however now demanded immediate Dispatch, and the President was requested to write to the Vizier accordingly in Favour of the Son of the late Rajah, in Terms that would at least awaken his Jealousy.——The Time has been, Gentlemen, when this might have been made a Demand; but Circumstances are now much changed, and even Address is necessary to solicit. A jealous, suspicious Disposition of the old Rajah, assisted by the Distrust of their own Children, inherent in the Minds of the People of this Country, may possibly have been the Reason why the Son was not included in the Treaty of 1765, for had he expressed a Wish to secure the Zemindary in his own Family, at a Time when the Vizier was receiving back his Country from our Hands, a Doubt can scarcely be formed but it would have been attended with Success; but suspicious probably of the Consequences that his Son should think he had a Right to the Succession, and equally fearing that the Measure might be attended with a considerable Reduction to his Treasures, from the usual Presents made on such Occasions, his whole Aim seemed to centre in Self-Security, without the least Attention to the Good of his Posterity. Indeed, it would appear at a Time when lately his Life was despaired of, this Thought first struck him, and he was desirous then to engage our

Interests, and appeared no way backward to satisfy the Vizier, as to any pecuniary Present which might be expected from him: But he was no sooner free from Danger, but his Love of Money returned upon him, and he became no longer eager to obtain his Wish, but solely through our supposed Interest with the Vizier, and meeting with no Inconvenience to himself.

Extract of a General Letter from Bengal to the Court of Directors, dated 31st Oct. 1770.

Par 30. In our Letter of the 11th Ultimo we informed you of the Death of Rajah Bulwand Sing, and of the Measures we were taking with the Nabob Shujah ul Dowlah to induce him to settle the Succession of the Zemindary of Benares on the late Rajah's Son.

The Demands made by the Nabob's Agent were Twenty Lacks of Rupees as a Nazerannah, and Five Lacks *per Annum* as an Addition to the Sums stipulated by the Treaty of 1765. The Terms were however finally concluded on the 8th Instant, when the Nazerannah was settled at Seventeen Lacks, and the required Increase was reduced to $2\frac{1}{2}$ Lacks of Rupees. Permit us, Honourable Sirs, to congratulate you on so very happy a Conclusion of an Event we deem highly important to your Interest.

31. The Vizier's Readiness in complying with this our earnest Recommendation and Request, has afforded us the greatest Satisfaction, and is a Circumstance the more pleasing as it must give Strength to the Opinions of the several Powers in Hindostan, of the strict Friendship subsisting between the English and him; and his having considered Captain Harper as a necessary Witness to the Negotiation carrying on between his Agent Allage Cawn and the young Rajah Cheyt Sing, will serve as a Proof to the World that he meant not to take any Measure therein that might give the least Cause for Suspicion on our Part.

Par. 32. The President was requested to acquaint the Vizier with the proper Sense we entertain of the Attention he has paid to our Recommendation, and that we consider it as an additional Proof of his Friendship.

Extract of a general Letter from Bengal, dated 31st December 1770, to the Court of Directors.

Par. 18. With respect to the Son and Successor of Bulwand Sing, the Vizier has, as we before informed you, acted agreeably to our Desire. Cheyt Sing is now fully invested with the Government to the entire Satisfaction of every One, and is considered by the Vizier as holding that Country on the same Terms as his Father, the Difference in the Revenues excepted. The whole are settled at Benares Rupees 22,48,449, which are 2,50,000 more than were paid by his Father. The Vizier expressed a Desire of seeing the young Rajah at the Marriage of his eldest Son Mirza Amany; the Rajah, sensible how much this Mark of Respect was due from him at that Time, promised to attend; but at length excused himself, perhaps by the Advice of his Father's Counsellors, who had kept alive the Family Enmity.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, of the 4th of October 1773.

Extract of Instructions from the President and Council at Fort William to Governor Hastings, dated 23d June 1773.

We empower you to renew, in Behalf of Rajah Cheyt Sing, the Stipulation which was formerly made with the Vizier in favour of his Father Rajah Bulwand Sing, in consideration of his Services to the Company in the Year 1764.

Extract of Secret Letter from Fort William, dated 12th October 1773; received in London 26th March 1774.

Par. 5. We have obtained from the Vizier a Renewal of the Sunnuds in Favour of Rajah Cheyt Sing, and his Posterity, on the same Footing as it was granted to his Father Bulwant Sing, excepting only the Increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ Lacks to his Annual Tribute, which the Rajah had agreed to at his Accession in 1770.

Extract of Secret Consultations, Fort William, 4th October 1773.

Extract of the Governor's Report.

N^o. 3, is Persian Copy of a Cowlnama or Engagement, which I obtained from the Vizier, confirming to Rajah Cheyt Sing and his Posterity, the Stipulations formerly made in Behalf of his Father Bulwant Sing.—N^o 4, is an English Translation of it.—N^o 5, Copy of the Vizier's Pottah or Rent Roll, fixed with Rajah Cheyt Sing for the Year 1778, and alluded to in the Cowlnama.—N^o 6, an English Translation of the Pottah.—N^o 7, the Translation of a Letter which I wrote to Rajah Cheyt Sing, as a further Assurance of the Conditions promised in the Cowlnama.

The

The Cowlname was executed in my Presence, and attested by me. The Vizier desired that the Stipulations made in Favour of the Rajah might be executed in this Mode rather than by an Article in the Treaty, and it was equally satisfactory to the Rajah. I must remark, that he had already given the Rajah a Cowlname of this Tenor, soon after the Death of Bulwant Sing, through the Solicitation of Captain Harper, by the Order of the Select Committee; he could therefore have no reasonable Plea to refuse the Confirmation of it. Nevertheless he seemed to think his former Act of so little Validity, that he pressed me in very earnest Terms for my Consent, that he should dispossess the Rajah of the Forts of Leteefgur and Bydgygur, and take from him Ten Lacks of Rupees over and above the stipulated Rents; and he seemed greatly dissatisfied at my Refusal. He argued that the Treaty of Illahabad related to Bulwant Sing solely, and was never meant to extend to his Posterity. I confess the Letter of the Treaty expresses no more; yet I cannot conceive that either the Rajah or Lord Clive, when the Treaty was made, could have intended it in that Sense. It has certainly been differently understood, both by the Company and by this Administration; and the Vizier himself had before put it out of all Dispute, by the solemn Act passed in the Rajah's Favour on his Succession to the Zemindary. I am well convinced that the Rajah's Inheritance, and perhaps his Life, are no longer safe than while he enjoys the Company's Protection which is his Due by the Ties of Justice, and the Obligations of public Faith, and which Policy enjoins us to afford him ever most effectually; his Country is a strong Barrier to ours, without subjecting us to any Expence, and we may depend upon him as a sure Ally whenever we may stand in need of his Services.

Translation of the new Cowlname, or Agreement, given by the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla to Rajah Cheyt Sing. N^o 4.

The Affairs of the Zemindary and Takud of the Sircar of Benares, and Sircar Chunarah, and of the Mehalls of Jecanpoor, Beseyppore, Buddohy, Suknesegurrah, Mubookhas, Sircar Gazeyppoor, Sickinderpoor, Khereed, Shadcyabad, and Toppeh Serinch, &c. which were under the Charge of Rajah Bulwand Sing, deceased, I do hereby grant and confirm unto you, upon their former Footing. It is necessary, that after deducting the Nankar, and Half of the Jaghire of Buddohy, you Monthly and Annually pay into the Treasury of the Sircar the established and stated Payments. By the Favour of God, whatever is promotive of your Honour shall be performed; and, exclusive of the Jumma specified in the Cabooleet of the present Fulsuly Year 1178, no Increase shall ever hereafter be demanded. And if you remain firm and steady in your Obedience, and in the Payment of your Rents, no Harm shall by any Means happen to your Ryots or Country. By the Word of God, and of the Holy Coran, and of the blessed Imaums, this Agreement is made between me and my Heirs, and you and your Heirs, and it shall never be deviated from. Dated the 18th Day of the Moon Jemady-ul-fami, in the Year 1177, Hegiree, answering to the 6th December 1773, English Stile.

A true Translation.

(Signed) W^m Redfearn Pⁿ Tr.

Translation of the Pottah given by the Nabob Shujah ul Dowla to Rajah Cheyt Sing. N^o 6.

The Sircar of Benares and Chumnarah, and the Mahals of the Sircar of Juanpoor, &c. including Land Rents and Syer Duties, and Havelly Mahomedabad, Benares, Mubooks Khaus, Pergunnah Booder, &c. Talook of Sekinra Mow, in the Dependencies of the Pergunnah Khaundah, Pergunnah Buddohy, Luknesegur, Beseyppoor, Sircar Gazeyppoor, Pergunnah Sickinderpoor Khereed, Shadcyabad, and Toppeh Serinch, &c. Land Rents and Syer Duties included, after deducting the Dustoor Dewanny, Nankar, Half of the Jaghire of Buddohy, and the other exempted Jaghires, and whatever has formerly been allowed as Deductions; I do now fully grant and make over to you, on the Terms of your Cabooleet, from the first of Khareef 1178, in consideration of Benares Cum-funna Rupees 22,48,449, Assel and Ezafa, as specified underneath, clear of all Expences of Sehbundy. It is necessary that you pay the above Sum to the Sircar, according to the stated and established Kists, Year by Year; and by the Favour of God, there shall never be any Deviation from this Agreement.

Particulars;

Particulars; viz.

Paid by Rajah Bulwand Sing as follows;

Benares	—	—	—	12,00,607	—	—
Buddohy	—	—	—	1,30,000	—	—
Sukneefgur	—	—	—	16,000	—	—
Befeypoor	—	—	—	2,00,000	—	—
Gazeypoor	—	—	—	5,00,000	—	—
Shadeyabad	—	—	—	40,000	—	—
				20,86,607	—	—
Deduct Nankar, Half of the Jaghire of Buddohy and						
Altemgah, &c.	—	—	—	88,158	—	—
Nett Revenue paid by Rajah Bulwand Sing	—			19,98,449	—	—
Increase settled with Rajah Cheyt Sing	—			2,50,000	—	—
Nett Revenue paid by Rajah Cheyt Sing	—			22,48,449	—	—

Dated the 27 Rejub, in the Year of Hegire 1184.

A true Translation.

(Signed) W^m. Redfearn, Pⁿ. Tr.

From the Governor to Rajah Cheyt Sing. N^o 7.

At this Time the Vizier of the Empire having given you an Agreement, under his Hand and Seal, which I have countersigned, and also affixed my Seal to, it is necessary that, conformably thereto, and according to the Treaty concluded at Allahabad by Lord Clive and the Vizier, respecting Rajah Bulwant Sing, your deceased Father; you with the greatest Cheerfulness pay to the Vizier, the Rents thereby established, in which Case the Company will always attend to your Welfare, and afford you their Care and Protection; and in the Agreements before mentioned, there shall never be any Breach or Deviation.

A true Translation.

(Signed) W^m. Redfearn,
Pⁿ. Tr.

Extract of Bengal Consultations the 13th of February 1775—Secret Department.

At a Council; PRESENT,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President;
Lieutenant General John Clavering,
The Honourable George Monson,
Richard Barwell, } Esquires.
Philip Francis, }

The Governor General conceives it to be necessary, before the Board proceed any further in the Business now before them, that one Principle upon which every other Resolution must depend should be determined, and therefore desires that the following Question be put:

Whether this Board considers the Treaties which were made with the late Nabob Suja Dowla as remaining in Force, or as having expired at his Death?

Mr. Francis—I think that the Obligations contained in the several Treaties with the Vizier, to support him in the Possession of his Territories, were confined to his Person, and consequently expired with him.

Mr. Barwell—This Question must be decisively determined by the express Letter of the reciprocal Engagements of the contracting Parties; I therefore desire the Treaties may be referred to; the Board will then see how far the Obligations extend.

Read, the Treaties of Allahabad and Benares.

Mr. Barwell—I think the Treaties bind to his Heirs.

Colonel Monson—I think the Treaties with the Vizier expire in his Person.

General Clavering—I desire to know whether the Governor in the Word "Treaties," comprehends the Engagements with the late Vizier respecting the Rohilla War?

The Governor General—I conceive that my Opinion in this Point can be of no Use in deciding the Question before us, because it has already been decided by the Majority of the Board,

Board, that the Engagements with respect to the Rohilla War, formed by the late Administration with the late Vizier, had not the Obligation of Treaty, nor, if I rightly recollect the Declaration made on this Subject, were in any Respect obligatory on this Government.

General Clavering—I could have wished to have heard the Governor General's Opinion upon the Question I took the Liberty to submit to him, on the Obligations of this Government to defend the Rohilla Country, as clearly given as that which Mr. Barwell gave in his Minute of the 31st October, because I might have formed some Judgment of the Governor General's Ideas on the Force and Extent of the Treaties contracted with the late Vizier. I think the Treaty of Allahabad was broken by the subsequent Treaty of Benares, by which Corah and Allahabad were taken from the King, and given to the Vizier, so that whatever Conception I might entertain of the Validity of the original Treaty, I think it now no longer obligatory on this Government, till the Court of Directors have given their Approbation of the Treaty of Benares, which entirely altered the Nature of the other.

The Governor General—I am of Opinion that the Treaties which were made with the late Nabob Sujah Dowla still continue in Force, and have admitted of no other Change, but in that of the Person of his Heir and Successor standing in his Place.—The First Clause of the First Article of the Treaty of Allahabad, in my Construction of it, extends the Obligation of that Treaty to the whole Line of the Nabob Sujah Dowla's Heirs. The Treaty of Benares being but explanatory of the former in the Article which respects the Part of the Extra-Charges of the Forces employed in his Defence, must be understood in the same Sense with respect to that Article; and the First Article expressly grants the Possession of Corah and Allahabad to the Vizier for ever, a Term excluding all Limitation.

Resolved, That the Treaties made with the late Vizier Sujah Dowla, do not remain in Force, but expired at his Death.

The Governor General proposes the following Question:

Whether a new defensive Treaty shall be executed with the Nabob Asoph-ul-Dowla, in case he himself should solicit it?

Mr. Francis—Supposing the Nabob to require our Assistance in support of his Succession I think that a new defensive Treaty should be formed with him, on the most advantageous Terms which can be obtained for the Company.

Mr. Barwell—Certainly.

Colonel Monson—I think a new defensive Treaty should be executed with the Nabob Asoph-ul-Dowla, on the most advantageous Terms for the Company.

The General agrees with Colonel Monson.

The Governor General—I am of Opinion there should.

Agreed, That a new defensive Treaty be executed with the Nabob Asoph-ul-Dowla, in case he solicits it.

The Governor General proposes, That each Member of the Board deliver in his Sentiments of the Conditions to be required or acceded to for the new Treaty; not having himself sufficiently considered this Subject in the Latitude which has been given to it by the foregoing Resolution, he wishes to prepare what he may have to offer himself, unless any immediate Proposition should be made by any Member of the Board, on which he should be willing to give his Opinion.

Resolved to adjourn to the Evening, that every Member may prepare his Ideas on this Subject.

Met in the Evening at Six o'Clock, according to Adjournment.

Resumed the Subject of the new Treaty to be formed with the Nabob of Owde.

Agreeable to the Governor General's Proposal in the Morning, the Members of the Board deliver in their separate Opinions in Writing, as follows:

Mr. Francis—Supposing it to be the Interest and Desire of the present Nabob of Owde to enter into a new defensive Treaty with the Company, by which we may oblige ourselves to guarantee to him the Possession of any Part of his present Territories, I think that the following Articles should be proposed and insisted on for the Advantage of the Company.

1st. The pay of our Troops in his Service to be made equal to their real Expence, upon a new monthly Estimate, and to commence from the Accession of the Present Nabob.

2d. The Zemindary of Benares to be made dependant as a Fief on the United Kingdoms of Bengal and Bahar; and the Tribute lately paid by the Rajah to the Vizier, to be paid to this Government.

3d. The present Rajah of Benares to be confirmed in the Zemindary, which may be perpetuated in his Family under a fixed annual Tribute, and a fixed Fine at each future Investiture; a free Trade to be opened between these Provinces and his Country; the Rajah's Authority in his own Government to be left full and uncontrouled.

4th. If the Possession of the Rohilla Country, or any Part of it, be guaranteed by a future Treaty to the Nabob, that some favourable Terms be made for the surviving Chiefs of the Rohillas, or their Representatives.

5th. The Debts from Suja Dowla (supposing them not to be liquidated at the Conclusion of the new Treaty) to be considered and acknowledged by the present Nabob as due from himself, or the Representative of the State of Owde for the Time being.

6th. Besides the Guarantee to be stipulated in return for the above Conditions, this Government shall undertake to obtain from the King a regular Confirmation of the Nabob, in his Government, according to the Laws and Constitution of the Empire.

7th. I conceive that the Attachment of Nudjif Cawn might be secured with the greatest Advantage to this Government, if through our Recommendation the King would appoint him Vizier of the Empire, with a Jaghire, which might easily be found for him either in the Douabe or the Rohilla Country. I understand he is one of the ablest Men and best Soldiers in the Empire: If properly placed in point of local Situation, and his Attachment secured, he might serve as a Barrier to the Soubahdarry of Owde, either against the Marattas, or any other Invaders from the Western or Southern Parts of India.

(Signed)

P. Francis.

The first Object to be attended to in a new Treaty, is the future Strength and Security of our own Possessions. The Company have invariably declared against any further Accession of Territory to themselves; any Conditions of that Tendency are of course out of the Question.

1st. I think the Conditions of the old Treaty (the Article respecting Corah and Allahabad excepted), is a good Foundation for any we may now chuse to form.

2d. As it may be possible to increase the Subsidy for a Brigade employed in Owde, that Increase ought, if possible, to be effected; but its Extent being arbitrary, and depending entirely on the Pleasure of the Board, we should consider in which Way to make our Aid the least burthensome, and most useful to our Ally.

Our Military Establishment is become an intolerable Burthen, and the Directors have expressly recommended that such Reduction take place in it as may be done with Safety to Bengal. To effect a Reduction appears here a secondary Object, the Safety of Bengal the first; to answer both, we should engage our Ally to pay a respectable Body of Troops, such as we may at all Times be able absolutely to command, and use as our own on any emergent Occasion. If this can be effected, a proportionable Retrenchment of our own Forces may immediately take place, and the Burthen be removed from our Shoulders to those of our Ally: This is preferable, in my Opinion, to the hiring out any Part of our own Forces occasionally to defend Owde, &c. and will equally strengthen the Nabob against his Foreign Enemies, while it renders him proportionably weak, and dependant on us.

3d. The Independency of Gauzipore and Owde is a great political Object, and ought to be insisted on; and whatever may be resolved respecting the Revenue paid by the Raja of that Country, the English Government ought not to stand in the same Relation to it as the late Vizier, because the Country of Benares and Gauzipore is a natural Barrier to these Provinces, and the Raja should have the strongest Tie of Interest to support our Government, in case of any future Rupture with the Soubah of Owde.

To make this his Interest, he must not be tributary to the English Government; for, from the Instant he becomes its Tributary, from that Moment we may expect him to side against us, and by taking Advantage of the Troubles and Commotions that may arise, attempt to disburthen himself of his pecuniary Obligations.

(Signed)

R. Barwell.

On the Death of a Soubah, the Soubahdarry escheats to the Crown; before Stipulations are made with Asoph ul Dowla, his Right to the Nabobship of Owde should be legally ascertained.

If the King nominates any other Person to the Nabobship of Owde, our Opposition to that Appointment is a Violation of the Laws of that Government under which we ostensibly hold the Dewannee.

I think therefore in the present Instance, we should act as Mediator between the King and Asoph ul Dowla. This Measure will be serviceable to the young Nabob, respectful to the King, and obviate many Circumstances that may hereafter appear inconsistent in our Conduct.

Supporting Mirza Ammanee in the Succession, without the King's Firmaund, will be an Act of Rebellion.

The King's Firmaund therefore appears to be indispensably necessary, as a Sanction for our Conduct and Honour.

For this Service done the Nabob, we should require that Cheyt Sing's Zemindary be annexed to the Soubahship of Bengal or Bahar, or to both.

To engage for the young Nabob strictly to adhere to all Treaties made between the King and Sujah Dowla, and to endeavour to prevail on the Nabob to give the whole of the Rohilla Country to the King.

The

The King Shaw Allum, for these Advantages, and for the Respect shewn him, should make over the Sovereignty of Bengal and Bahar to the King of Great Britain, and relinquish all Claims to his Tribute.

If these Terms are too severe on the Nabob, they may be mitigated by relinquishing the Sums that remain due from him for the Conquest of the Rohilla Country.

If the Nabob Asoph ul Dowla requires the Assistance of a Brigade, he should pay all Charges attending it.

I mean by Charges, the Pay, Batta, and contingent Expences.

(Signed)

G. Monson.

In considering the important Subject which is now before us, I have Two Objects in View; First, The obtaining the greatest possible Advantage to the Company, in consideration of the defensive Aid proposed to be offered to the new Nabob; the Second is the avoiding the greatest probable Inconveniency to the State by Virtue of the Engagements we may enter into with him.

As the Basis of all my Reasoning, the following Premises must be granted to me: First, That the Nabob Mirza Ammanee possesses such Disqualifications of Character, that he cannot maintain himself or his Musnud without our Assistance; Secondly, That there is a political Necessity in this Government, not to allow any other Prince to occupy the Soubahship of Oude, and the Countries of Corah and Allahabad, without our Concurrence.

It is well known that there will be as many Competitors for the Countries left by the late Vizier as there are Powers in that Part of Indostan; the King, the Marattas, the Jauts, the Rohillas, Nudjif Cawn, and even some of the Nabob's own Family and Commanders of his Army, will probably all or most of them strive to obtain some Share of his Dominions.

The Question then is, Will it be for the Interest of the Company to permit any of these Princes to establish themselves in the Provinces bordering on Bengal without our Consent?—I am of Opinion there would be great Danger in permitting it. In that Case, what Measure must be pursued to render us the Arbiters of those Countries consistently with those Views which I first stated—the obtaining the greatest possible Advantage to the Company, and avoiding the greatest probable Inconveniency in the Undertaking?

The greatest Advantage, in my Conception, that can be obtained for the Company, is, First, The total Extinction of the King's Claim to the Tribute on these Provinces; Secondly, That the Zemindary of Benares and Gauzipore shall be held by the Cheyt Sing of the Company, instead of the Soubah of Oude. To obtain the First it should be proposed to the King, That he should renounce his Tribute on these Provinces, that he should acknowledge the Nabob of Oude to be Soubah of that Country, and should appoint him Vizier.

In Return for this Favour, we should restore to him the Countries of Corah and Allahabad. The Nabob, in Return to the Favour shewn to him and procured by our Mediation, should relinquish to the Company the Sovereignty of Benares and Gauzipore, to be held as at present by Cheyt Sing, on his paying his Tribute to the Company. In order to attach this Raja to the Company, his Tribute ought to be diminished at least Three Lacks of Rupees.

Whatever Assistance shall be afterwards required by either the King or the Nabob, for the Defence of their respective Countries of Corah and Allahabad, and the Province of Oude, not less than Three Lacks *per* Month should be paid to the Company, as less than that will not defray the Expence of a Brigade serving out of the Provinces.

(Signed)

J. Clavering.

On the Grounds already resolved on, I propose the following Articles for the new Treaty, premising, that I consider the Debts due from the late Vizier, as not appertaining to the Subject of the intended Treaty. These we claim as a Right, exempt from any future Negotiation.

1st. That the Treaties of Allahabad and Benares be renewed on the Footing on which they stood at the Vizier's Death.

By this Proposition the Monthly Subsidy for our Army will remain, as settled with the late Vizier, at 2,10,000 Rupees. I am against augmenting it. The Expence ought not to exceed that Sum. If more be agreed on, it will either discourage the Nabob from employing the Brigade, or he will employ it, and most probably suffer it to run in Arrears.

2d. That

2d. That the perpetual and independent Possession of the Zemindary of Benares and its Dependencies, be confirmed and guaranteed to Rajah Cheyt Sing and his Heirs for ever, subject only to the Annual Payment of the Revenues hitherto paid to the late Vizier, amounting to Benares 8 Rupees 23,71,656. 12. to be disposed of as expressed in the following Article; that no other Demand be made upon him, either by the Nabob of Oude or this Government, nor any Kind of Authority or Jurisdiction exercised by either within the Dominions assigned him.

The Rajah of Benares, from the Situation of his Country, which is a Frontier both to the Provinces of Oude and Babar, may be made a serviceable Ally to the Company, whenever their Affairs shall require it. He has always been considered in this Light both by the Company and the successive Members of the late Council; but to ensure his Attachment to the Company, his Interest must be connected with it, which cannot be better effected than by freeing him totally from the Remains of his present Vassalage under the Guarantee and Protection of the Company, and at the same Time guarding him against any Apprehensions from this Government, by thus pledging its Faith, that no Encroachments shall ever be made on his Rights by the Company.

3d. That an equal Partition be made of the Revenue of the Zemindary of Benares, between the Company and the Nabob of Oude; that is to say, That the Rajah shall pay monthly to each, the Sum of 98,823. 2. 9. amounting on the Whole to Rupees 23,71,656. 12; and that this Participation be expressly declared to be intended as a Pledge and Acknowledgment of the equal Relation in which the Rajah and his Successors are hereafter to stand to both Governments.

I propose this Article with some Reluctance, as contrary to my Idea of the Right of the Nabob of Oude, in virtue of the Treaty originally formed between his Father and the Company; but it is conformable to the Principle adopted by the Board in the Resolution passed this Morning, and may perhaps be obtained without much Opposition from the Nabob; at the same Time that it contributes to fix the Independency of the Zemindary of Benares, on the most permanent Foundation.

(Signed)

Warren Hastings.

Agreed, That these several Opinions lie for further Consideration.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council in Bengal, in their Secret Department to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated the 24th February 1775.

Par. 2. We then informed you of the declining State of the Vizier's Health, according to the Intelligence we received from Mr. Middleton; and that in his Opinion he could not survive long. On the 6th Instant, by Letters from Colonel Galliez, we are informed he was actually dead. The Colonel had previously apprized us of the imminent Danger in which the Vizier lay; and we had dispatched Instructions to him, to support the Pretensions of Mirza Amanny, the Nabob's eldest and only legitimate Son, in the Succession, in case of his Father's Death, and immediately to move the Brigade down to Fyzabad, to prevent any Disturbance in the City on the Occasion. We at the same Time ordered the Third Brigade to march up from Barrampore to Dinapore, that it might be nearer to the Frontier in case any Service should be required.

Par. 4. Just before the Vizier's Death, he wrote a Letter to the Governor General, which was afterwards transmitted to its Address by Mahomed Elich Khan, his Minister and favourite Servant, accompanied by One from himself.—By these Letters it appears that Mirza Amanny, otherwise called Asoph ul Dowlah, had his Father's positive Nomination to the Succession; and though by all Accounts he possesses neither the Qualities of the Heart nor Head equal to the Station to which he is thus called, we have not as yet any Reason to think that his Right will be disputed.

5. In conformity to those Assurances which we gave in our last Letter to your Honourable Court, we have had in Deliberation the Line which on this important Event it may be most proper for us to pursue, for drawing from it the greatest possible Benefit to the Company's Affairs. We have already determined, that the specific Conditions of our former Alliances with the Vizier expired with him; and that although we owe Friendship to the present Nabob, as Heir to his Father, we are not bound to any special Services to him. In this essential Point it is necessary to mention, that the Sentiments of the Board were not unanimous, as will appear upon the Proceedings. Our present Engagement goes no farther than to a simple Acknowledgment of his Title; and therefore, should he apply to us for Assistance and effective Support, we mean to afford it only on such Terms and Stipulations as to us shall appear most advantageous to the Company, and honourable to the British Name. As this is a Subject of great Magnitude and Importance, we have chosen to enter upon it in Council with all the Deliberation which it requires. The Ideas of the different Members will appear in the Consultation referred to in the Margin; they are not given in as conclusive Opinions, but as Sentiments subject to be

canvassed, modified, and corrected, and tending only to throw Lights on the Subject before the final Determination of the Board; when that Determination takes place, you shall be duly advised.

Par. 6. Mr. Bristow, who has set out for his Residency at the Court of the new Nabob, will be furnished with ample Instructions on these Heads.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 8th March 1775.

At a Council; P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Lieutenant General John Clavering,
The Honourable George Monson,
Richard Barwell, } Esquires.
Philip Francis, }

Mr. Francis having sent in the following Minute the Day after the Date of the above Council, it was circulated for the Perusal of each Member of the Board, and is now recorded.

Fort William, 4th March 1775.

I believe it was understood by the Board, that in my Answers to the several Questions proposed last Night by the Governor General, relative to a new defensive Treaty with the Soubah of Oude, I meant that all the Conditions which I thought this Government might assent to in favour of the Soubah, or insist upon in behalf of the Company, had an united and inseparable Relation to each other. As however my Answers to each Proposition may appear to be given absolutely, and independent of that mutual Relation by which I meant to unite them, I now beg leave to explain my Intention, with respect to all the Governor's Propositions considered in one View.

1. I make the Cession or Transfer of the Revenue or Tribute (paid by the Rajah of Benares) from the Nabob of Oude to this Government for ever, a preliminary and fundamental Condition, without which I do not mean to consent to any Treaty of Guarantee whatsoever in favour of the Nabob, unless an Alternative shall be proposed which may appear equally advantageous to this Government. If, for example, the Nabob would rather relinquish his Claim to Corah and Illiabab than his present Right over the Zemindary of Benares, I shall be very willing to come to an Accommodation with him on that Point. The Recovery of those Countries might enable us to adjust all Disputes or Differences with the King upon a Footing equally honourable and advantageous to the Company.

2. Supposing this first fundamental Article to be settled, I then consent to the Guarantee of Oude and Benares to the Nabob for his Life, without any Reservation; or, if he prefers Corah and Illiabab to Benares, I then include those Countries in the Guarantee, provided the Treaty of Benares shall be approved of, and confirmed by the Honourable Court of Directors.

3. With this Guarantee, on which ever of the Two Principles it may be settled, I mean to unite the Article of the Subsidy to be paid for the Service of such Part of our Troops as may be employed at the Nabob's Requisition in defending the Dominions guaranteed to him, provided the first great Point be adjusted to our Satisfaction. I would not ultimately insist on raising the Subsidy beyond its present Establishment. The first Demand however should be made for the entire Expence; we may afterwards gradually relax from it if we think proper.

4. In agreeing to the proposed Independence of the Rajah of Benares, my Meaning was to adhere strictly to the Third Paragraph of my Minute of the 13th of February, the Zemindary may be perpetuated in his Family on fixed and unalterable Conditions. The Conditions I proposed, tend to secure us a great Accession of Revenue without any Accession of Territory. It is highly for his own Advantage to be considered as a Vassal of the Sovereign of these Kingdoms, holding a great hereditary Fief by a fixed Tenure, and acknowledging the Sovereign of Bengal and Bahar to be his Lord Paramount. Speaking my Sentiments without Reserve, I must declare, that in settling this Article, I look forward to the Assertion or Acceptance of the Sovereignty of these Provinces, *pleno jure*, on the Part of His Most Gracious Majesty the King of Great Britain.

(Signed)

P. Francis.

Extract

*Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 8th March 1775.**Extract of the Governor General and Council's Instructions to the Resident at Oude.*

These Matters being thus settled, you will then be at Liberty to listen to any Overtures for a new Treaty which the Nabob may choose to make; and in this Case you will take Care to intimate to him, that although the Company regard him as an Ally, and have not scrupled to acknowledge his Right to his Father's Succession, yet that the specific Conditions of the several Treaties made between the Company and his Father being merely temporary and personal, they of course expired with him. That therefore if he (the new Nabob) thinks it necessary also to require any specific Assistance or Service from this Government, it will be proper that a new Treaty, with new Stipulations, be entered into between us.

Possibly one of the First Articles he will propose, will be the Guarantee on our Parts of all his Father's Dominions to him; and as our Ideas on this Article may not correspond with his Expectations, it will require particular Delicacy in opening them to him. We therefore recommend this particularly to your Attention, and shall explain them fully to you as a Guide for your immediate Conduct; not meaning to bind ourselves absolutely to adhere to them, should we find it expedient to recede afterwards in any Degree.

First, you must acquaint him that the Rohilla Country lately conquered by his Father, being now completely in his Possession, and the Company having faithfully fulfilled all their Engagements respecting it, we look upon it as unnecessary for us to interfere longer in its immediate Defence, especially as his own Power is sufficient for that Purpose, and that it would be carrying our Troops to too great a Distance from our own Frontiers to take upon us a constant Guarantee of its Possession to him; therefore this Article we must decline.

As to the Conquests in the Duab, they having been undertaken without our Consent or Participation, and no Assistance either required or expected from us at the Time, and even an express Declaration from the then Administration to the Vizier, that they would not assist him; we never looked upon ourselves as any way concerned in them, and cannot now enter into any Engagement for maintaining them.

With respect to the Provinces of Oude, Corah, and Allahabad, we shall make no Scruple to guarantee to him the Possession of the First and of the Two last, till such Time as the Determination of the Court of Directors on the Treaty of Benares be known. It is probable that the Advice of this Determination will arrive before any Treaty can be finally adjusted with the Nabob, in which Case we shall be able to give you more precise Instructions on this Article. In the mean Time the above is the Line you are to take in conversing with the Nabob upon it.

But as in the Case of a defensive Treaty between the Company and the Nabob, and that they should take upon them the Guarantee of any Part of his Dominions, it is fit they should reap an Advantage from it equivalent to the Service which they are to render him, and to the Hazard which they take upon themselves; you will therefore give the Nabob to understand, that such Equivalent is to be expected of him; and you will throw out in your first Conversation with him on the Subject, that you have Reason to believe if he were to relinquish and make over to them for ever the Tribute which he receives from the Rajah Cheyt Sing, together with the Sovereignty of the Province possessed by that Rajah, it would be accepted as a full Compensation for the Protection they would agree to afford him, that thus yielding up to his best Friends a Tribute which bears a small Proportion to his other Revenues, it would better enable them to afford a solid and effectual Protection for the rest, and at the same Time encroach little on his real Dominion as a Sovereign Prince, since it would only be his relinquishing the nominal Authority over a Province where he hardly at present exercises any.

Such are the general Points on which we are willing to enter into a defensive Treaty with the new Nabob of Oude, and which must be the Groundwork of any Negotiations for that Purpose with him. It will be your Business, whenever these commence, supposing always that the Proposition first comes from him, to explain our Ideas to him in the most clear and precise Manner, that no Misunderstanding may afterwards arise; and you will endeavour to convince him of their Justice and Propriety. You must further acquaint him, that in any Treaty with him, where the specific Aid of any Body of our Troops may be stipulated, we expect that the Monthly Subsidy shall be ascertained at a Sum equal to the real and whole Expence; that we experienced in the last Campaign that the Subsidy paid by his Father was considerably less than the real Charge of the Brigade, which served to involve us in Difficulty and Distress; and in a similar Case with regard to him, it might prevent us from affording him that hearty and effective Aid which it is our Intention to bestow.

Provided the Surrender of his Claims on the Revenues and Sovereignty of Gauzipore be adjusted to our Satisfaction, we think proper to inform you, in the strictest Reliance and Confidence in your Discretion, that in that Case we do not mean to insist ultimately on

raising the Subsidy beyond its present Establishment. And this Hope you are at Liberty to hold out to the Nabob as from yourself only, and without Authority from us. Your first Demand on the Head of the Subsidy, should be made for the entire Expence; we may afterwards gradually relax from it if we think proper. We need not tell you however, that you will render a most acceptable and useful Service to the Company, in obtaining the whole Demand according to the Terms in which you are ordered to make it in the first Instance.

If when the Nabob shall be thoroughly possessed of our Ideas and Expectations with respect to the Terms of the proposed Treaty, he should give a direct and positive Refusal to treat on such Terms, you are then to suspend all further Negotiations with him, and report to us the precise Terms of his Refusal; informing him at the same Time, that it is our Determination to withdraw our Troops immediately out of his Country, and that he must expect such Orders from us in Reply to your Report. We expect that you will obtain a precise Satisfaction from him on this Point, as soon as it is possible, and that you do not suffer yourself to be amused by a Negotiation, of which the Nabob may avail himself during his present urgent Necessity; and when he has confirmed himself in his Government, under the Countenance and Protection of our Troops, may afterwards break off the Treaty.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th April 1775.

At a Council; P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Lieutenant General John Clavering,
The Honourable Geo. Monson,
Rich^d Barwell, } Esquires.
Philip Francis, }

Read the following Letter from Mr. Bristow, the Resident at the Court of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowla.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and the Members of the Honourable Supreme Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I am this Evening honoured by the Receipt of your Letter of the 8th Instant, containing full and explicit Instructions relative to the Treaty. All I have hitherto said to the Nabob about it was, that the English were firmly united to him in Friendship, and had therefore authorized me to negotiate this Matter.

On his Excellency's repeatedly asking me regarding the Terms of the new Treaty, I always answered, That I could not, according to my present Instructions, finally conclude any Thing; but when he was at Leisure to give in his Preliminaries, I would forward them for the Approbation of the Honourable Board. He appeared anxious to confirm the Treaty of Benares, without taking any Notice of those made either at Allahabad, or by the Deputation in the Year 1768.

This is the Situation in which the Negotiation now stands; and as I have purposely avoided to descend to Particulars with his Excellency, the Channel is left open for the Propositions the Honourable Board are pleased to instruct me to make.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 27th April 1775.

Extract of a Letter from the Resident at Oude to the Governor General and Council, dated the 14th April 1775.

My last was on the 11th Instant, since when I am favoured with your Letter of the 30th Ultimo. I in consequence waited upon his Excellency, and intimated your Commands to him. He at first expressed great Discontent at the Honourable Board's protecting Rajah Cheyt Sing; called him his Zemindar, of whom he had a Right to require his Rents in Advance; and told me that he did not think I was authorized to make any Representation to him on this Head, or that of the Release of the Rohilla Families, for "the Governor General would have wrote to him, as well as to me, on these Matters." I hereupon quoted the Words of my Credentials, and requested his Excellency to consider my Trust was general, and that it was intended he should pay Attention to any Representations I should make in the Name of the Honourable Board, and this Mode of Negotiation had been adopted to save Trouble on both Sides.

I likewise quoted the Treaty subsisting between the late Vizier and Rajah Cheyt Sing, and their Heirs respectively, of which the Company were the Guarantees so long as the
Rajah

Rajah paid his Kists when they became due; and his Excellency, on his Part, could not demand either an Increase of Rent or Sums in Advance.

After a long Conversation, his Excellency confessed he had, on my first mentioning the Matter, not recollected the Circumstances I had explained to him; that his Reason for granting the last Tuncaw, was the Rajah's having once before paid one in Favour of the Company for Five Lacks of Rupees, and thought he would do it again; besides this, he had at the Time no other Means of discharging ever so small a Part of the Money due from him to the Company. I upon this told his Excellency, what he also pretended not to remember, that the Rajah had been induced to pay the First Tuncaw of Five Lacks with great Difficulty, and did it solely to avoid Altercation; that he would not now by a Repetition establish a Precedent so disadvantageous to himself, and contrary to the Letter of the Treaty.

At my Interview this Day there were many People present: I therefore thought it necessary, after the Conversation which had passed, both to support the Honour of the Government and the Credit of my own Station, to tell his Excellency, that the Honourable Board would never suffer the Rights of their Dependents to be infringed; Rajah Cheyt Sing was to be considered in this Light, and he must expect to see him protected, for that he was not to be put upon a Footing with his other Zemindars.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 6th June 1775.

Translation of the proposed Articles of the Treaty with the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah.

The Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah, Jeayaa Cawn Behadre, Hozeblus Jung, on the one Part; and the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, and the Members of the Supreme Council of Fort William, for and in the Name of the English East India Company, on the other Part, agreeable to the following Articles:

First. That universal Peace, firm Friendship, and perfect Union, shall for ever be established between the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah and the English East India Company; the contracting Powers, with a View of maintaining a reciprocal Friendship in the future, shall not for any Cause, or under any Pretence, encourage the Riots and the Inhabitants of their Soubahs in committing Hostilities and Disturbances, and every Thing shall be avoided by the said Powers which might occasion them; their Friends and Enemies are mutual; and any Person who shall run away and take Refuge in the Country of one of the said Parties, shall be given up to the other, and no Assistance afforded him.

Second. The aforesaid Nabob engages never to entertain or receive in his Dominions Cossim Ally Cawn, the former Soubahdar of Bengal, and Sumroo, the Murderer of the English; even in Case of his getting them into his Hands, he will, out of Friendship, make them Prisoners, and deliver them up to the English Company. He also engages not, for any Cause, or under any Pretence, to entertain Europeans of any Nation in his Service, without the Consent of the English Company: That he will prevent, oppose, and send back such as offer to come in, to pass through, or remain, or shall now be in his Dominions, without the Perwannah of the English Company. The Europeans of every Nation in the Service of the said Nabob are hereby dismissed; and now and in the future he engages never to entertain the said Europeans; and to deliver up to the English Company such of their Servants who have deserted or may desert, in case of his apprehending them.

Third. If the King should write any Thing relative to the Affairs of the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah to the English Serdars, they will attend to the Satisfaction, Advantage, and Inclination of the said Nabob, and not consent to what the King may say or write. In like Manner, if the King should write to the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah, relative to the Affairs of the English Serdars, he will attend to their Satisfaction, Advantage, and Inclination, and not consent to what he may say or write.

Fourth. The Countries of Corah and Allahabad shall always and for ever remain in the Possession of the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah, on the same Footing as the Soubah of Oude; and they shall on no Account in the future be disturbed by the English; nor will they ever request a Dam or Derrum, or any Thing from the said Countries. The English Serdars engage to defend the Soubah of Oude at all Times, and Corah and Allahabad until the Pleasure of the Court of Directors shall be known.

Fifth. The said Nabob, for the Defence of his Country as above specified, declares, That he has given up of his own free Will and Accord, unto the English Company, all the Districts dependant on Rajah Cheyt Sing, together with the Land and Water Duties, and the Sovereignty of the said Districts in Perpetuity—That the English Company shall, after One Month and a Half from the Date of this Treaty, take upon them the Sovereignty and Possession of the Districts under Rajah Cheyt Sing, as hereunder specified; viz.

Sircar Benares,
Sircar Chumar,
Suktesgun,
The Sircar Gauzypore,

The Districts of Junapore,
Bighpore Bahdore,
Mullbooz Kawfs.

The Purgunnahs of Seckunderpore, Jeride, Shaay, Abad, Toppa, Surchehur, &c. as formerly,
The Mint and Cutwally of Benares.

Sixth. The Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah, for the Aid and Assistance of the English Troops when stationed with him, shall pay Monthly, from the Date of this Treaty, for the Charges of a Brigade, the Sum of Two Lacks Sixty thousand Oude Sicca Rupees, of the 16th Year, agreeable to the present Currency.—If in future this Currency should be abolished, the Decrease or Increase of Batta shall be mutually given and received by the Parties. The Particulars of a Brigade are, viz.

Two Battalions, or One Regiment of Europeans,
One Company of Artillery, and
Six Battalions of Sepoys.

The aforesaid Nabob shall, whenever the English Troops pass the Boundaries of the Company's Provinces at his Request, pay the stipulated Sum Monthly from that Time until their Return to the aforesaid Boundaries.

Seventh. If the aforesaid Nabob shall ever require the Aid and Assistance of the English Company, for the Defence of any other of his Countries besides those above specified, he will fix something for the Company proportioned to the Service.

The English Company and all the English Serdars, engage to perform whatever Articles are now mutually settled; and in the future, during the Life of the Nabob Asuf ul Dowlah, they will never vary or depart from them.—They will not, in any Respect or Manner, make Requests of any Thing new, contrary to the Tenor of this Treaty.

The Parties mutually swear according to their respective Faiths, to abide by these Engagements. Dated the 20th of Rubby-ut-Euril, 1189 of the Hegira, or the 21st of May 1775.

A true Translation.

(Signed) John Bristow,
Res^t at the Court of the Nabob of Owde.

Compared with an attested Copy sent down by Mr. Bristow, and found to be an exact Translation, except that the Word Bahdoer, in the List of Districts, was omitted, which I have inserted

J. H. D'Oyley,
Acts Persn Tr.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th June 1775.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Bristow to the Governor General, dated Camp opposite to Konnaje, 22d May 1775.

I humbly submit my Conduct to the Honourable Board, in agreeing to the Sum of Fifty thousand Rupees a Month for the Increase of Subsidy, as Murtehret Cawn repeatedly observed to me. Benares, &c. now ceded to the Company, instead of 22 Lacks, might be estimated at Fifty *per Annum*, it being rented, the Difference between these Two Sums, under its real Value. To transfer such a Revenue to the English, and at the same Time consent to an Increase of Subsidy for defending Oude only, for in fact the Stipulation, in regard to Corah and Illahabad, could hardly be considered binding, when Letters from the Court of Directors might arrive the very Day after the signing of the Treaty, and leave the Company at Liberty to require new Terms for this Service. He for a long Time, in the Name of the Nabob, therefore positively rejected this Article; but after much Persuasion, I convinced him of the Propriety of it; and as the Honourable Board did not fix a Sum, and the Juncture was favourable for concluding every Point, I thought it prudent to accept what was offered.

Together with the Treaty I received Purwannahs from the Nabob to Rajah Cheyt Sing, the Cutwah, and the Dorogo of the Mint at Benares, directing them to deliver over the separate Trusts to the Company at the stipulated Time. I have enclosed the original Perwannahs by this Night's Dawk to Mr. Motte, desiring him and the other Parties to acknowledge the Receipt of them.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th June 1775.

Translation of an Agreement under the Seal of his Excellency the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah.

In case of any Persons having any Demand, or having received Tunkaws on Rajah Cheyt Sing, or on the Districts under him, agreeable to my Orders, such Demands or Tunkaws do not depend on the said Rajah, or on the said Districts, but are due from myself.

The

The Possession and Sovereignty in Perpetuity of the said Districts under the said Rajah, without Incumbrances, Delay, Dues, Debts, Tuncaws, &c. I wholly give up to the English Company, at the Expiration of One Month and a Half.

Dated the 20th of Rubby ut Ewut, 1189 of the Hegira, or the 21st of May 1775.

A true Translation.

(Signed) John Bristow,
Rest at the Court of N^b of Owde.

Compared with an attested Copy sent down by Mr. Bristow, and found to be an exact Translation.

(Signed) J. H. D'Oyley,
Pⁿ Tr.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 3d August 1775.

Par. 2. It is now with the greatest Satisfaction we can inform you, that the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah has consented fully and totally to the Terms we proposed for a new Treaty with him, as advised you in our Letter of the 24th March last. The Treaty was finally adjusted between the Nabob and the Resident at his Court on the 21st May last, and the Ratification executed by us immediately after the Receipt of the Treaty.

3. In the Consultation referred to in the Margin, is inserted an exact Copy of the Treaty as signed by us. The Articles differ in nothing essential from those agreed upon to be offered to the Nabob when we first determined to renew our Alliance with him. The Cession of Benares, and the other Territories of the Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Company, we flatter ourselves will prove perfectly agreeable to your Ideas, as it conveys a valuable Acquisition to the Company, without incumbering them with any new Engagements, or loading them with additional Expence; nor indeed is it liable to the Objection of involving them in the Trouble of new Collections and new Establishments, with all the Disorders which attend them. The Revenue which accrues from this Acquisition amounts to Rupees 23,72,656. 12. 0. and will be paid by the Rajah in monthly payments as a neat Tribute, without rendering any account of his Collections, or being allowed to enter any Claim for Deductions. You will observe, that the Cession of the whole Zemindary of Cheyt Sing, with all the Powers and Rights annexed to it, is made immediately to the Honourable East India Company, without any Participation with the Soubah of these Provinces, or any formal Union of Title or Possession between this and the Company's former territorial Acquisitions. In the Treaties entered into with the late Vizier Sujah Dowla, in the Years 1765 and 1770, the Company's Representatives acted as Plenipotentiaries from the Nabob Nudjum-ul-Dowlah, and his Successor Syef-ul-Dowlah.— We hope that our securing to the Company the exclusive Right to the rich Zemindary of Benares, independent of the Sovereignty of Bengal, will be deemed a Service of Importance to their Interests, and favoured with their Approbation. It is not yet finally settled with the Rajah, whether the Tribute shall be paid at Patna or Calcutta. We wait his Answer to our Proposal on this Head, as well as to some others, regarding the Cutwally and Mint at Benares, and to our Recommendation of his keeping up a Body of Cavalry, to be ready for our Assistance when called upon: When these Matters are adjusted, we shall duly advise you; in the mean while the Governor General's Proposals respecting them, and Deliberations upon them, will be seen in the Consultations.

6 June.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 11th September 1775.

Par. 10. In our Letter of the 3d August, of which you will receive a Duplicate by this Ship, you are advised of the Acquisition of the Territories of Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Company, and of the Steps which we had then taken towards settling with him for that Zemindary. On the 16th of that Month we again took this Subject into Consideration, and called the Vackeel before us, who had received an Answer from his Master to our first Offer; but not being able to ascertain from him the Fineness and Quantity of the Silver of the Goushary Rupees, in which Coin the Tribute from the Rajah is to be paid, nor the exact Amount which the late Farmers of the Mint and Cutwally at Benares, and the Cutwally at Juanpore, had paid annually to the Nabob and his Officers, for the Grant of those Articles; we judged it necessary to appoint a Person to proceed to Benares, to make sundry local Investigations into these and other Points, to enable us to come to a final Adjustment with the Rajah; and we accordingly appointed Mr. Francis Fowke. In the mean Time we agreed that the Rajah should continue to pay at Benares the exact Sum, and in the same Species of Rupees as he had paid to the late and present Nabobs of Oude; that is to say, 23,72,656. 12. Gourshay Rupees, exclusive of the Mint, Cutwally, and other Articles, which the Nabob held in his own Right.

Extract

Extract of Minute of General Clavering, Colonel Monson, and Mr. Francis, in Secret Consultations, 7th December 1775.

The permanent Advantages secured to the Company by our Treaty with the present Subahdar of Oude, are equally conspicuous and important; they have extorted an Acknowledgement from the Governor General, with which he has not been accustomed to honour any Measures but his own. In Return for an Acquisition of Twenty-two Lacks a Year for ever, with an Increase of Fifty thousand Rupees to the monthly Subsidy of the Brigade, besides many other Advantages and honourable Stipulations, hardly any Thing is granted on our Part but a Personal Guarantee of the same Countries to the Son, which we were before bound to guarantee to the Father. The Frontier Country of Ghazipore must at any rate have been defended by our Arms in case of an Invasion, whether the Revenues of it had been ceded to the Company or not. These Revenues are in effect a clear Gain to the Company, and a seasonable Relief to the declining Circulation of Bengal. The Measure is strictly and exclusively ours: The original Plan was opposed in every Step by the Governor General and Mr. Barwell. It gives us the highest Satisfaction to observe, that by the Terms of the Treaty, the Guarantee of the Nabob's Dominions, and the Service of the Company's Troops, were exactly confined within the same Limits which the Court of Directors, in their last Letter, have thought fit to prescribe to us in our Engagements, with the Vizier.

Secret Consultations, 29th February 1776.

Extract from the Governor General's Observations on the Minute of General Clavering, Colonel Monson, and Mr. Francis, dated the 21st November 1775.

Par. 9. The new Treaty with Asoph O'Dowla, is certainly advantageous to the Company, if the Conditions of it can be fulfilled; but of this I ever did, and do still, entertain a Doubt, notwithstanding the Acknowledgments which it is said to have extorted from me, but which I do not remember to have expressed, and now disclaim; for I cannot deem it honourable to have extorted from the Nabob, Concessions inconsistent with our former Treaties, to which the Necessity of his Situation alone obliged him, however unwillingly, to submit.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 15th January 1776.

Par. 14. The Amount of the yearly Tribute of Rajah Cheyt Sing, fixed by his Treaty with the late Nabob of Owde, was Benares Rupees 22,48,449, besides which we find that he paid a further annual Tax, under the Head of Nuzzerana Rupees, Rupees 90,000, which, consistently with our Resolution to exact the same from him as he paid to the late Vizier, we think the Company had an undoubted Right to, and therefore we resolved to fix the Sum, adding the Value of a few Articles, which we had left the Settlement of to Mr. Fowke, at Benares Rupees 23,40,209, or Sicca Rupees 22,66,180 $\frac{1121}{1000}$ Decimals. We have authorized Mr. Fowke to treat with the Rajah for the Payment of this Sum by monthly Instalments at Calcutta; and we have Reason to hope, from the Concessions we have made to him in the Articles of the Mint and Cutwally, that he will take upon himself this Remittance on moderate Terms. Mr. Fowke has received from him 7,09,000 Rupees to the 20th Ultimo, and we have directed him to remit this Amount through the Hands of Rajah, or by Bills obtained by the Merchants at Benares.

15. It appearing that the Coinage struck for many Years past in the Mint at Benares, has been debased in Proportion to the annual Rent paid by the Person who farmed it to Government, we thought it advisable to fix a proper Weight and Standard to be invariably observed by the Rajah in all Money which might be coined, on Pain of forfeiting the Mint, and being liable to any Penalty the Board might think fit to impose on the first Instance of any Deviation; and to obviate any Objections on his Part, we relinquished the Sum which had been usually paid for that Farm.

16. Conceiving also that no Profits could be justly yielded by the Cutwallies, above the Expence of their Establishments, we were unwilling to encourage Oppression, or to furnish a Pretence for the Rajah or his Ministers to introduce or give Sanction to any venal Perquisites in his Courts; we also remitted the Sum commonly paid to the Nabob for a Grant of them.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 20th March 1776.

Par. 37. Rajah Cheyt Sing has now agreed to pay the Amount of his Tribute, being Sicca Rupees 22,66,180, into the Treasury at Calcutta, by equal monthly Kists or Instalments, and is to receive 2 per Cent. Premium on the Amount for the Charge of Remittance; we have allowed 51 Days Grace for every monthly Payment to be made after the Period on which it actually becomes due, in order to enable him to procure Bills, or to remit Affets to answer the Payment within that Term: And to secure his being exact in

the punctual Discharge of his monthly Kists, we have agreed to impose a Penalty in case of Failure of $\frac{1}{4}$ per Cent. per Diem on the Amount of all deficient Payments, after the Expiration of the Term of 51 Days. A Sunnud for his Zemindary shall be furnished him on these, and the Conditions before agreed on.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor and Council General, in their Secret Department, at Fort William, 15th April 1776.

The Secretary having prepared the Sunnud and Potta for Rajah Cheyt Sing's Zemindary now begs leave to lay them before the Board, with Copy of an Obligation to be executed by him for the Remittance of his Tribute. The Board having signed the former.

Ordered; That they be transmitted to him, and Translations of all of them entered in this Place.

*Translation of the Sunnud granted to Rajah Cheyt Sing, for the Zemindary of Gawzipore, Benares, &c.

Be it known to the Mutfidies in Office, present and to come, Canongoes, Muckudums, Ryotts, Cultivators, to all the Inhabitants and People resident and belonging to Sircar Benares, Gauzipore, and Chundara, in the Soubah of Allahabad; That whereas, by virtue of a Treaty with the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, concluded on the 20th of Rubby ul Awul, 1189 Hyjerie, or 21st May 1775, the Government and Sovereignty of the Sircars above mentioned have been ceded to the Honourable East India Company from the 4th of Jummady ul Awl, 1189 Hyjerie, or 4th July 1775, the said East India Company therefore, pursuant to the Rights thereby obtained, do confirm unto Rajah Cheyt Sing the Zemindary, Aumeeny, and Foujedarry of the said Sircars agreeably to the Zemmin, together with the Cutwallies of Juanpore and Benares, and the Mint of Benares, from the said Date. Whatever Gold and Silver shall be coined in the Mint, the said Rajah shall coin conformably to his Mackulka. He is not to be in the smallest Particular remiss, in the Observation and Execution of the several Duties incumbent on him; he is to behave with Moderation and Kindness to the Ryotts and People, to promote the Cultivation and Increase of Inhabitants, and Produce of the Lands, expelling Thieves, nightly Assaulters and Robbers, and so effectually punishing the Disturbers of the Peace, that no Trace of them may be seen; and he is to pay a Tribute of 23,40,249 Benares Muchlidar Rupees, or 22,66,180 Calcutta Siccas Annually to the Company's Treasuries. Should he receive Orders to pay the above Revenue at Benares, he shall in that Case pay the Sum of 23,40,249 Benares Muchlidar Rupees, each Rupee to weigh Ten Masha, and to contain Two Ruttee and Two Chowls of Alloy, and no more; should the Weight be less, or the Alloy more, he shall make up the Deficiency. Whenever the Money shall not be wanted at Benares, he is to remit the Annual Amount of 22,66,180 Sicca Rupees punctually, agreeably to his Kists and Muckulka, by monthly Payments at Calcutta. In consideration of which, he shall be allowed a Deduction of Two per Cent. amounting in all to S^a R^s 44,434. 14. 5. Account Hindowunny, which being deducted, the net Amount is 22,21,745. 1. 7. S^a R^s of Calcutta, which he is to pay at that Place. After the Settlement of Account at the End of the Year, he shall in the customary Manner receive Credit for his Payments; and he is by no Means to collect the prohibited Abwank of the Durgah of his Majesty. This Sunnud being granted, is to remain in Force, and all former Sunnuds to become null and void. You the Mutfidies and Persons above mentioned are to regard the said Rajah as the truly and lawfully Possessor of Zemindary, Aumeny and Foujedarry of the above Sircars, and to acknowledge his Authority in the several Acts appertaining thereto. Know that we have here issued the most strict and positive Commands, and obey them accordingly.

Written on the 25th of Suffer 17 Sun, or 15 April 1776.

Signed by the Governor General and Council.

The Zemun.

The Office of the Zemindary of Sircar Benares, Gauzipore, Chundara, the Cutwauly, the Duties of the Mint in the Soubah of Allahabad, have been conferred upon the great Chief Rajah Cheyt Sing Behadre, also the Aumeeny and Fouzdarry.

Mohals 19; viz.

Sircar Benares, Chundara, Sircar Gauzipore, Mohals of Juanpore, comprehending Maul and Duties, Havily, Mahomed, Abad Benares. The Lans Daums, or for supplying Cloathing to the King. Purgunnah Bhadury, the Talook of Sukramrow in Chundar Suktegur, Bidgepore, Sekundepore Thireed, Shady Abad, Tuppa, Seringa.

The Cutwally and Duties of Benares free.

D^o D^o of Juanpore D^o

The Mohal of the Mint of Benares D^o

The Benares Mukiem, or Brokerage; the Sungierizzenrou, or Stone, weighing of Benares and the other Mahals; the Yauteraunley, or Office of Mutesaub of Benares.

Copy of a Potta granted to Cheyt Sing.

This Potta, containing the under written Stipulations, is granted unto Raja Cheyt Sing Behadre.

Sircar Benares, Gauzipore, Chunar, and the Mohals of Sircar of Juanpore, comprehending the Maul and Duties, Havily Mahomed Abad Benares, the Kaufdoms in Purgunnah Bhadury, Talook of Sunkaramow in Purgunnah Chunara, Sucktesgura Bijepore, Sircar Gazipore, Purgunnah Sekunderpore, Keirud Shady, Abaud, Putna, Sircunjea, including the Cutwally Duties of Juanpore and Benares, the Mint of Benares, the Mokeemy Yatifau, and Stone, weighing both Maul and Duties, and the Dewanny Duffoor, excepting the Nanear of Half the Jaghier of Bhadury, the exempted Jagheers, and Ayma, which have been inserted for a Length of Time in the Accounts as Deductions. All the Articles of the Tahud are settled upon you, from the 4th January-ul-Awl, 1189 Hyjerie, or the 4th of July 1775 English, at a Stipulation *per Annum* of 23,40,209 Mahidar Benares Rupees, not short of the Weight of 10 Maffa each, and not containing a greater Portion of Alloy than Two Rutties and two Berinjie, agreeable to your Muckulka and Cabooleat. This Sum you will therefore pay; but should it not suit the Convenience of the Company to receive it at Benares, you are to pay it in Calcutta, in Sicca Rupees of Calcutta, amounting in which Specie to S^a R^s 22,66,180; the Amount of Hindooaun or Exchange allowed you at the Rate of Two *per Cent.* is R^s 44,434. 14. 5. which being deducted, the nett Sum will be 22,21,745. 1. 15. S^a R^s of Calcutta. This you are to pay without the least Deduction or Depreciation whatever in the Course of each Year, by Monthly Payments, agreeable to your separate Kistbundee. This you are to pay without any Allowance for Subundee. You will remit the Money to Calcutta without fail, conformably to the said Kistbundee.

Particulars of the Tribute, viz.

Former Cabooleat	-	-	-	-	2 0,86,607	-	-
Deduct							
Namar	-	-	-	R ^s	9,800	-	-
Exempted Lands	-	-	-		8,000	-	-
Maaffy Fourth Part and Syra Sicca	-	-	-		2,358	-	-
$\frac{1}{2}$ Jaghier of Bhadway	-	-	-		67,500	-	-
Attamgau of Mussam aut Narad Bano	-	-	-		500	-	-
						88,158	-
Add						19,98,449	-
Nuzzerana	-	-	-		90,000	-	-
Tuppa	-	-	-		34,207	12	-
Nukeeme, &c.	-	-	-		1,800	-	-
						1,26,007	12
Encrease							
Total	-	-	-		2,50,000	-	-
Deduct	-	-	-		34,207	12	-
						2,15,792	4
Benares Rupees	-				23,40,249	-	-
Batta to reduce them into Siccas	-				74,069	-	-
Remain Sicca Rupees	-				22,66,180	-	-
Deduct Hindooaurin	-				44,434	14	5
Remains nett Amount in Siccas	-				22,21,745	1	15

Written on the 26th of Suffer, 17th Year, or 15th April 1776.

Extract of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated 24th December 1776.

Par. 37. It is with singular Satisfaction we observe at any Time the Attention paid by our Servants to the great Interests of their Employers; and it is with particular Pleasure we here signify our entire Approbation of the late Treaty concluded with Asoph ul Dowla, Successor of Sujah Dowla, by which such Terms are procured as seem to promise us solid and permanent Advantages.

Extract

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Secret Department, the 9th July 1778.

Extract of Governor General's Minute.

Secondly. That Rajah Cheyt Sing be required in Form to contribute his Share of the Burthen of the present War, by consenting to the Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be raised and maintained at his Expence.

Mr. Francis.—On the Supposition that the Detachment now employed under Colonel Leslie will not return for a Length of Time into the Provinces, I acquiesce in the Proposal relative to Rajah Cheyt Sing; but I think he should be informed, that this additional Charge will not be imposed on him beyond the Continuance of the present War.

The Governor General.—The qualification proposed by Mr. Francis is consonant to my Intention in the Question, and is implied in it: I should have no Objection to its being expressed in an additional Clause. That our Resolutions upon this Subject may be unanimous, I agree to add to the Question the following Words, “and to be disbanded at the End of the War;” but perceiving that the Difference in our Opinions upon the Subject arises, not from a Disagreement respecting the Requisition simply considered by itself, but from a different Understanding of the Right of the Company to exact, under any Pressure of Affairs, more than the Sum stipulated by the Sunnud granted to Cheyt Sing, and the Caboleat given by him in Return, I must adhere to the Question as it stands, wishing to avoid the Question of Right. If, however, we cannot agree upon this Point, still I would wish to have the Requisition made in the Words of the Question, and leave the Decision of future Right to our Superiors.

Mr. Wheeler wishing to avoid the Question of Right, I acquiesce in the Motion; but I think it should be qualified in the Manner proposed by Mr. Francis.

Mr. Barwell.—An Acquisition of Revenue and Military Force I suppose to have been annexed to the Grant of the Zemindary of Benares and Gauzipore to the Company. Any military Establishment, independent of the English Administration, in the Heart of the Company's Dominions, may, in the Time of Danger, be turned against those Interests which, under another Policy, it would protect. I have long regarded the military Establishment of Benares under the Rajah's native Officers, and not subject to the Discipline, Command, and Regulation of our Battalions, as a Defect: I therefore most heartily agree to the present Proposal for Three disciplined Battalions to be kept up and paid by the Rajah, and sincerely hope the Company will direct, that the whole Force of Benares and Gauzipore under the Zemindar, be placed upon the same Footing as the regular military Force of the Presidency.

The Governor General.—I agree to the Question in the original Terms of it, deeming it a Right inherent in every Government to impose such Assessments as it judges expedient for the common Service and Protection of all its Subjects; and we are not precluded from it by any Agreement subsisting between the Rajah and this Government.

Resolved, That Rajah Cheyt Sing be required in Form to contribute his Share of the Burthen of the present War, by the Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be raised and maintained at his Expence; and the Governor General is requested to write to him to that Effect.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing: Written 11th July 1778.

War having been declared between the Courts of Great Britain and France, by the former on the 18th March or 18 Suffer, and by the latter on the 30th of March, or 1st of Rubbee ul Awal, 1192 Hejeree, I am to request of you in my own Name, and that of the Board, as a Subject of the Company, bound to promote their Interest on every Occasion, to contribute your Share of the Burden of the present War, which will equally affect your Interest and ours. It has been determined by the Board, that an Establishment of Three Regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be commanded by British Officers, be raised and maintained at your Expence, and employed on such Service as the Situation of Affairs may require. I have no Doubt but, regarding this Measure equally conducive to your own and the Company's Interest, you will with the greatest Readiness comply, and I hope you will intimate your Consent without Delay.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council in their Secret Department, 17th August 1778.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letters, &c.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from Rajah Cheyt Sing, and informs the Board, that having called upon Ally Nucky, the Rajah's Vackeel, for an Explanation of his Master's further Sentiments upon the Subject of it, he received the following Answer from the Vackeel, being the Substance of a long Conversation, viz. That his Master was at all Times ready to pay Obedience to the Commands of the Board,

and to afford every Proof of his Attachment to the Company; and that the Rajah had authorized him to declare his Acquiescence in the Requisition of a Subsidy equal to the Expence of Three Battalions of Sepoys, for the Service of the War.

The Vackeel contended much for fixing the Sum of the Subsidy at Three Lacks of Rupees. The Governor told him, it could not be less than Five; and received his Consent in his Master's Name, and in virtue of the Authority which he derived from the Rajah, to the Payment of that Sum for One Year, his Authority extending no further.

The Governor General is of Opinion, that as the Rajah's Consent has been expressed with such a Limitation, and eluded in his written Answers, the Payment of the Subsidy ought not to be left subject to the Contingencies which the Course of a Year may produce, but immediately demanded. He computes that the Amount of Three Battalions of Sepoys, on Double Batta, exclusive of Tents, Arms, and contingent Charges, will amount to 4,76,000 Rs. On these Grounds he moves, That the Subsidy to be paid by Rajah Cheyt Sing, for the Maintenance of three Battalions of Sepoys during the Course of the War, be fixed at the annual Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees; and that he be immediately required to pay that Sum into the Hands of the Resident, Mr. Graham.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Francis.—I acquiesce; though in my own Opinion it would answer as well to us, and be less distressing to the Rajah, if the Subsidy were added in equal Proportions to the monthly Receipts of the Tribute.

I agree,	P. Francis,
Agreed,	R. Barwell,
	E. Wheeler,

From Maha Rajah Cheyt Sing. Received 30th July.

I have been honoured by the Receipt of your gracious Letter, communicating the Intelligence of a War having broke out between the Courts of Great Britain and France, and desiring me to take on myself a Share of the Burthen of Expence. My Patron! I am the Servant of the Sircar; I will write you more fully hereafter. On all Occasions I am hopeful of your Highness's Favour and Support.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham; and that Notice of the Board's Resolution be given to the Persian Translator, that a Letter be accordingly prepared to be sent to Rajah Cheyt Sing.

Sir,

Thinking it necessary that Rajah Cheyt Sing should be required to contribute his Share to support the Burthen of the present War with France, we resolved that Three Battalions of Sepoys should be raised and maintained at his Expence: And the Rajah, in Answer to a Letter which the Governor General wrote to him on the Occasion, having, by Means of his Vackeel, agreed to pay a Subsidy of Five Lacks of Rupees for One Year, but not authorized his Vackeel to extend his Acquiescence further, we deem it necessary, and have accordingly ordered, That the Rajah shall immediately pay this Sum into your Hands; you will therefore receive the same from him, and remit the Amount of it to the Presidency.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
17th August, 1778.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing. Written 17th August 1778.

I have been favoured with your Letter, intimating your Consent to the Requisition made to you by this Government as a Subject of the Company, to bear a Part of the Expence of the present War: I am pleased with your ready Compliance; of this indeed I could have no Doubt, as your Interest is equally concerned with the Company's in the Success of it. The Expence of keeping up Three Regular Battalions has been calculated, and found to amount to Five Lacks of Rupees *per Annum*, at which Rate your annual Subsidy has been accordingly fixed. I am therefore to desire, in the Name of this Government, that you will pay immediately to Mr. Thomas Graham the Sum of Five Lacks of Muckledar Rupees. Thus you will perform your Duty to the Company, and secure their Favour and Support.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 17th August 1778.

Par. 12. We have agreed to augment our own Military Establishment, by the Addition of 15 Companies of Native Artillery, and 9 Battalions of Sepoys. Three of these Battalions are now forming by Drafts from the regular Troops which are stationed in the Nabob's Dominions, and the other Six will be composed of Recruits; but as we think

think it just that Rajah Cheyt Sing should contribute his Part to the Charges of the War, we have determined that Three of these Battalions shall be raised and maintained at his Expence, by Means of a Subsidy of Five Lacks *per Annum*, which he has agreed to pay for One Year.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Public Department, 28th September, 1778.

Extract of a Letter from the Resident at Benares, dated the 14th September 1778.

I think it necessary to inform you, that notwithstanding Seventeen Days are elapsed since your Orders arrived here, directing the Rajah to pay into my Hands the Subsidy he had agreed to pay, of Five Lacks of Mutchildar Rupees, he has not yet paid me One Rupee; and offers, as a Reason, his Inability to discharge the Whole at once; and requests me to receive it by Monthly Payments. Your Honourable Board's Orders authorizing nothing of the Kind, I have acquainted him that it is impossible for me to come into his Request; and have repeated my Requisition, which I have indeed been urging every Day since the Receipt of your Orders, to pay me the whole Amount as speedily as possible.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from Rajah Cheyt Sing:

From Rajah Cheyt Sing, 28th September.

I have been honoured with your gracious Letter, desiring that I will, as a Subject of the Company, take on myself the Payment of Five Lacks of Mutchledar Rupees, as my Proportion of the Expences of the present War, and pay them to Mr. Graham—Although I have no Ability left, and the great Burthen of Expence I laboured under from the Time of the Decease of the late Rajah till the Expiration of the Nabob Vizier's Authority over me is well-known to God and your Excellency, yet solely with a View to Compliance with your Orders, and to prove my Fidelity, having sold and pledged every Thing belonging to me, I will make good the afore said, in Instalments, in Six or Seven Months; although by parting with my Effects, which are clearly necessary, I am left in a State of Inability for the future; yet you will shew me much Favour, that I shall again recover myself.

As a Time is required for the Sale of my Effects, and raising the Money, I hope, from your Kindness, that the Officers of Government may take from me in different Payments the said Sum in Sonaut Specie, as I shall not be able to procure this Sum in Mutchledar Rupees; and that you will be graciously pleased to affix your Signature to my Requests, that I may apply myself with Satisfaction and Assiduity to the Business of the Sirkar.

Governor General.—The Substance of this Letter, and the Requisition made by the Rajah to Mr. Graham, differ so much from the cheerful and ready Acquiescence with the Rajah's Vackeel, Shaik Ally Nucky, made in his Master's Name, to the Demand we made on him for this Subsidy; that I think it necessary, for my own Justification, to call upon the Secretary to certify the Accuracy of my Minute, delivered on the 17th August; containing the Assent expressed by the Vackeel, in his Master's Name, to the Payment of the Subsidy.

The Secretary acquaints the Board, that the Governor General delivered to him the Minute above mentioned, previous to his laying it before the Board, with Orders to explain the Contents of it to the Rajah's Vackeel, that it might correspond with the Acquiescence which he had delivered. He accordingly communicated the Minute to the Vackeel, and received from him a Confirmation of the Terms therein expressed.

The Governor General moves, That Orders be written immediately to Mr. Graham, that he do, on Receipt of them, demand of the Rajah in Person, the Payment of the entire Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees in the Space of Five Days; and declare to him, in the Name of this Board, that his Refusal or Neglect to complete the Payment within that Time, shall be deemed equivalent to an absolute Refusal; and that he be forbidden in that Case to hold any farther Intercourse with the Rajah, until he shall have advised us of the Particulars of the Rajah's Conduct in this Instance, and received our Orders in consequence.

Mr. Francis.—I beg Leave to ask, Whether there be any Letter from the Rajah himself to the Governor, in which his Consent to pay the Five Lacks, in the Manner agreed to by the Vackeel, is expressed, or the Vackeel's Engagement to that Effect confirmed?

Governor General.—All the Rajah's Letters will be found in the Book of Persian Correspondence, to which I refer; but I well recollect, that the Assent given by the Vackeel was expressed in Terms the most peremptory that could be conceived, either confirmed by an Oath, or his own Life pledged for the Performance of it. My Minute was drawn up

from Heads of what passed in Conversation with the Vackeel; and when it was explained to him by Mr. Auriol, he was very desirous of correcting a Part of it, which made the Acquiescence of the Rajah appear too general; and that it might be specifically limited to One Year, his Powers, he added, extended no further. The Correction was accordingly made upon the Spot, in the Room adjoining to this, and the Minute immediately recorded. I desire the Secretary to mention, whether this agrees with his Recollection of the Matter?

The Secretary very well recollects the particular Circumstances alluded to by the Governor General, and therefore offers his Testimony, that the Vackeel declared he was authorized to acquiesce in the Subsidy for One Year, but no longer, and desired that the Requisition might be limited to that Time. The Minute was before indefinite.

Mr. Francis.—I have no Sort of Doubt of the Reality of the Engagements made by the Vackeel; the Question is, whether they are Acts of the Rajah, or made by sufficient Authority from him? If the Vackeel had even a Letter of Credence, relative to the Point in question, it would be sufficient; if he had, it must appear on the Persian Correspondence, and I desire the Secretary will read it.

Governor General.—I have looked over the Book of Correspondence; there are but Two Letters upon the Subject, the First a Letter recorded in Consultation of the 17th August, acknowledging the Receipt of mine, which contained the First Requisition of the Five Lacks, and promising an Answer. The Letter recorded on this Day, appears to be that Answer, as it begins with an Acknowledgment of the First Letter, and a short Recapitulation of its Substance. My First Letter was written on the 11th July, Two Months and Seventeen Days from this Date. If an Answer from the Vackeel, during so long an Interval, was not to be deemed authentic, the Rajah's Silence was more disrespectful than a direct Refusal; but if it be admitted as an Exculpation, his surest Remedy against any Act of Government will be a Refusal to make any Reply to its Demands. I will not conceal from the Board that I have expected this evasive Conduct in the Rajah, having been some Time past well informed, that he had been advised in this Manner to procrastinate the Payment of the Five Lacks, to afford Time for the Arrival of Dispatches from England, which were to bring Orders for a total Change in this Government; and this he was given to expect would produce a Repeal of the Demand made upon him by the present Government. On intimating my Suspicions of such a Design to the Vackeel, he promised he would write in so effectual a Manner to his Master, as should without fail induce him to make an immediate Payment of the Subsidy. He this Morning informed me, that his Letter was dispatched on the 12th of this Month; its Effect ought by this Time to have shewn itself. Sufficient Time will have been given to the Rajah to obey the Authority of the Board, by the Arrival of the Orders which I have now proposed; and whether in that Interval he shall ratify the Act of his Vackeel or not, I shall consider of little Consequence. If the Board will support their own Authority, he shall be made to yield to it.

Mr. Francis.—There is no Question but the Rajah must yield to the Power of this Government, and I shall be as ready as any Member of this Board to support its Authority, as long as its Power is directed by Justice. I did from the First express a Doubt, whether we had strictly a Right to encrease our Demands upon the Rajah beyond the Terms which we originally agreed to give him, which he consented to, and which, as I have constantly understood it, were made the fundamental Tenure by which he held his Zemindary. If such Demands can be increased upon him at the Discretion of the Superior Power, he has no Rights, he has no Property, or at least he has no Security for either: Instead of Five Lacks let us demand Fifty; or whether he refuses or is unable to pay the Money, the Forfeiture of his Zemindary may be the immediate Consequence of it, unless he can find Means to redeem himself by a new Treaty. Having this Opinion of the Demand itself, as it originally stood, it cannot be deemed extraordinary in me, that I should proceed with very great Caution in enforcing any Penalties which may be proposed to attend his not instantly complying with it. It appears that the Engagements made by the Vackeel have not been confirmed by the Rajah, and that the Vackeel had not even a Letter of Credence from his Master. I know the Temper of Black Servants too well to punish their Principals for any Acts done by them, or even to hold them bound by such Acts, if not expressly or virtually confirmed by themselves. I do not mean by what I have said, that the Board should give up the Demand which they have already thought fit to make of the Rajah: That Resolution being passed, it only remains for us to take Care that it be carried into Execution without Harshness or Violence. The Rajah must pay the Money, if he has it; but I cannot conceive why we should insist on his paying it all at once. We do not instantly want it, and it may distress him in the greatest Degree to part with such a Sum at a single Payment. My Opinion is, therefore, that the Liquidation of the present extraordinary Demand upon him, should be settled by Kistbundy, and that he should be assured at the same Time, that this Board will not make any further Demands upon him. Under such a Settlement, unanimously agreed to, it is not likely that the Rajah will

will delay or evade a due and regular Execution of it, from any Hopes he may conceive of future Relief by a Change in this Government.

The Governor General.—The very Demand is itself a Proof that the Rajah expects such Relief; and with respect to his Ability to pay the Sum so long demanded from him, or even Ten Times that Amount, I speak within Compass, no Man can doubt of it. The Acts of the Majority of the Board are the Acts of the Board. When the Person who is the immediate Object of them, stands so high in the public Estimation, and holds Pretensions, as it appears this Rajah does, to a sovereign and independent Authority, such Acts once passed, ought never to be revoked. The Demand made upon the Rajah was for immediate Payment; the Demand ought to be supported rigidly; but I will so far yield to the Necessity of the Times, weakening as it may prove to the Powers of this Government, at a Crisis which of all others demands their most vigorous Exertion, as to consent to a Compromise. The Rajah has requested, that he may be allowed to pay the Sum required of him by Instalments, within the Space of Six or Seven Months. I will consent to pardon his past Contumacy and Disobedience, on Condition of his consenting to pay the entire Sum within Three Months; which Time will have elapsed before the Orders now sent to Mr. Graham can take Effect, although not a Rupee shall have been received to that Period, of the Payments which by his own Proposal ought to be half completed. I desire, that what I have said may not be misunderstood. I mean only to shew, that instead of the Harshness and Rigour, which have been imputed to this Government, in its present Conduct to the Rajah, he has been treated with a Lenity almost equal to the Substance of his own Demands. I think it unnecessary to reply further to Mr. Francis's Minute, as I desire only to obtain his Consent to a Measure upon his own Principles, which I understand to be, that a public Measure, nay even an Opinion of Government, once passed, ought to be invariably supported, even by those who opposed it in the first Instance.

Mr. Francis.—It is generally true, that a Resolution of Government, once passed, should be supported; but, where the Rights of others are concerned, it is only true with this Proviso, that such Resolutions are not directly contradictory to the Principles of Justice, or to the voluntary and fundamental Engagements of the Government itself. This Board was already bound to the Rajah by certain Acts of their own, not carried by a Majority, but unanimously agreed to. I desire, that they may be recorded in this Place as I find them stated in our Instructions to Mr. Fowke, of the 24th August 1775.

"4th. It will be proper to assure the Rajah, that we do not mean to increase his
"Tribute; but to require from him the exact Sum, and in the same Species of Rupees,
"to be paid at Benares, as he paid to the late Vizier Sujah Dowlah, besides whatever
"Equivalent may be fixed for the Grant of the Mint and Cutwally to him, the Whole
"to be discharged by equal monthly Kists; and if we should find it expedient hereafter
"to receive the Amount at the Presidency, a suitable Deduction or Commission shall
"be allowed to him, for the Expence and Risk of transporting or remitting it.

"5th. That under the acknowledged Sovereignty of the Company, we are deter-
"mined to leave him the free and uncontrouled Management of the internal Govern-
"ment of his Country, and the Collection and Regulation of the Revenues, so long as
"he adheres to the Terms of his Engagements; and will never demand any Augmen-
"tation of the annual Tribute which may be fixed."

If the Opinions of the individual Members who then composed the Board, should be looked back to, I believe it will appear that the Amount of the Tribute was fixed at a higher Sum than the Governor General then thought the Rajah ought to pay. This however is immaterial; I only mean to shew that I adhere to my Principles, and that the Doubts which I have constantly expressed, of the Justice of increasing our Demands upon the Rajah, which, if done at all, may be done *ad libitum*, were not ill founded.

Governor General.—I must object to the Term "unanimous" applied to any Resolution passed at the Period to which Mr. Francis alludes, merely because my Dissent was not expressed to it. The Quotation from Mr. Fowke's Instructions related only to the fixed and annual Revenue, but could never be understood to preclude that Right which every Government inherently possesses, to compel all its Dependencies to contribute by extraordinary Supplies to the Relief of extraordinary Emergencies; but though it were granted that this Injunction given to Mr. Fowke did extend to every Mode of Supply, still the Argument will not apply to the present Question. The present Demand for the Subsidy, just or unjust, was made unanimously; and therefore, even on that Ground alone, ought to be unanimously supported.

Mr. Francis.—Understanding that the instant Payment of the Five Lacks is still to be demanded in the Terms of the first Proposition, and that no Relaxation from those Terms was intended, I am against the Motion.

Mr. Wheeler.—I am for the Question; but I am further of Opinion, that it should be left to Mr. Graham to determine, whether to enforce Payment of the Sum required of the Rajah, for the present Exigencies of Government, by One Payment, or whether to receive

receive it by different Instalments, not exceeding Three Months from the First Payment to the Completion of the Whole.

Mr. Barwell.—The Facts that have been related to the Board by the Governor General, speak the absolute Necessity of the Motion that has been agitated. In these Sentiments it is incumbent on me to support it; and I think that in order to its full Efficacy, the Governor General should be empowered to pursue such Means as may secure the Government from a Possibility of a further Disappointment.

Governor General.—I cannot consent to the Qualification of the present Motion recommended by Mr. Wheeler, for the Reasons I have already assigned. With respect to the Proposition implied in Mr. Barwell's Minute, I shall take an early Occasion to offer my Sentiments upon it, desiring the Subject to rest here for the present.

Mr. Francis.—If Mr. Barwell in his Minute means to give the Governor General, by his Voice, any Powers whatsoever independent or exclusive of the Board, I must request he will be pleased to explain himself; I am sure that no such Powers can be wanted on the present Occasion.

Governor General.—I beg that the Debate, which is now unnecessary, may end. The Morning has already been lost in Words. As nothing more is proposed to be done, I hope it is unnecessary that more of our Time should be consumed in ineffectual Debates, even without a professed Object.

Agreed, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham:

Sir,

We have received your Letters of the 15th July, 9th August, and 14th Instant.

We cannot consent to the Request of Rajah Cheyt Sing to be allowed to pay the Amount of his Subsidy for the Expence of the present War, for One Year, by monthly Kists. Our Orders communicated to him by the Governor General, for the immediate Payment, were positive; we therefore confirm those Orders, and direct, that on Receipt hereof you wait on the Rajah forthwith, and demand of him in Person, and by Writing, the Payment of the full Sum of Five Lacks of Mutchlidar Rupees, the Sum at which the Subsidy is fixed, in Specie to that Amount, to be made to you within Five Days of such Demand; and declare to him, in the Name of this Government, that his evading or neglecting to accomplish the Payment thereof within that Space, shall be deemed equivalent to an absolute Refusal; and in case of his Non-compliance with your Demand, we peremptorily enjoin you to refrain from all further Intercourse with him, until you shall have advised us of the Particulars of his Conduct in this Instance, and received our further Orders on the Subject.

Fort William,
the 28th Sept 1778.

We are, &c.

*Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Public Department,
5th October 1778.*

Read Two Letters from Mr. Graham as follows:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the Receipt of your Letter of the 17th Instant, informing me of Rajah Cheyt Sing having, by Means of his Vackeel agreed too pay a Subsidy of Five Lacks of Mutchlidar Rupees, as his Share for the Support of the Burthen of the present War, and for the Purpose of defraying the Expence of Three Battalions of Sepoys, resolved to be raised and maintained at his Charge; also acquainting me of your having ordered the Rajah to pay this Sum immediately into my Hands, and directing me to receive the same from him, and to remit the Amount of it to the Presidency.

In consequence of these Orders, I have called upon the Rajah for Payment of Five Lacks of Mutchlidar Rupees, which I shall accordingly receive, and agreeable to your Orders, remit to the Presidency.

As the Exchange on Bills between this and Calcutta is daily rising, and is at present at the exorbitant Rate of $10\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. And as I am desirous the Company should sustain as little Loss as possible by the Remittance of this Sum, I beg to be informed whether you would prefer its being sent down under Insurance, whereby a Saving will accrue of One per Cent. after allowing for the full Expence of Coinage, which if the Company, being themselves the Coiners, do not chuse to charge themselves with, the Difference between remitting by Bills at the present Exchange, and sending Specie, will be Three per Cent.

I have the Honour to be, with the highest Respect,

Benares,
29th August 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs, &c.
(Signed) Thomas Graham, Resident.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have the Pleasure to acquaint your Honourable Board, that last Night the Rajah made me a Payment of Fifty thousand Rupees in Part of the Subsidy of Five Lacks. He has promised to send me as much more To-morrow or next Day, and if the Whole is not discharged very soon, it shall not be owing to any Want of Exertion on my Part to perfect the Execution of your Orders.

Benares,
22d September 1778.

I have the Honour, &c.
(Signed) Thos Graham, Resident.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing. Written the 11th October 1778.

I have received your Letter, containing Assurances of your Fidelity and Attachment, and intimating, that conformably to my Directions you had assented to the Payment of Five Lacks of Rupees, and communicated your Consent in a former Arzee, and that afterwards being informed it was my Pleasure that the Whole should be paid at one Time in Calcutta, you would remit the Whole in the Space of a Week; with other Particulars, which I understand.

I am pleased at the Intimation of your Assent to my Desire, respecting the Mode of Payment of the aforesaid Sum, although it arrived somewhat late, and I doubt not but you will faithfully discharge your Promise by making the Remittance to Calcutta at the specified Time. Whilst you continue faithfully and zealously attached to the Company, you may be assured that every Measure will be adopted which may promote your Interest and Prosperity. Know me ever interested in your Welfare. For further Particulars I refer you to your Vackeel, Shaik Aly Nuckey.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Public Department, 12th October 1778.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following Note from the Governor General:

Sir,

I herewith send you Four Bills of Exchange, this Instant delivered me to my Shekh Ally Nuckee, the Vackeel of Rajah Cheyt Sing, being for Four Lacks and a Half of Rupees, which, with Fifty thousand Rupees paid, complete the Sum of Five Lacks required of the Rajah for the extraordinary Expences of this Year.

Saturday Morning,
10th October 1778.

I am, &c.
(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Ordered, That the Bills be sent to the Treasury, and that the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham:

Sir,

Rajah Cheyt Sing has, by Means of his Vackeel, remitted Bills of Exchange to us for the Sum of Four Lacks and Fifty thousand Rupees, which, with the Amount paid into your Hands, will complete the Subsidy of Five Lacks, required as his Proportion of the Burthen of the War with France for the present Year; we therefore direct, that you refrain from the Execution of the Orders contained in our last Letter.

Fort William,
12th October 1778.

We are, &c.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Public Department, 19th October 1778.

Received the following Letter from Mr. Graham:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I did myself the Honour of addressing your Honourable Board on the 22d Ultimo, to inform you, that I had received from the Rajah Fifty thousand Rupees, in Part Payment of the Subsidy of Five Lacks which he had agreed to pay the Company, and that I was promised a further Payment of Fifty thousand Rupees the next or following Day.

That Period and Three Days more having elapsed, without hearing any Thing either from the Rajah or his Servants regarding the promised Payment of Fifty thousand Rupees, I judged it necessary to remind the Rajah thereof by Letter, as well as to recommend to him a speedy Discharge of the Remainder. This Mode of Application having several Times repeated unsuccessfully, I deemed a personal Interview not only indispensable, but highly consistent with my Duty; on which Occasion I verbally demanded of him, in the

SEL. COM. REP. II.

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Name

Name of the Company, Payment of the Balance of the Subsidy; in Reply to which he acquainted me, that he would pay no more here, but would send the whole remaining Sum of Rupees 4,50,000 to his Vackeel at Calcutta, who would pay it there. Finding him determined in this Resolution, I desired he would furnish me with some Testimony thereof, either by an Address to your Honourable Board, or, as it is more customary, to the Governor General, that I might transmit it to him; but this he positively refused me.

These Circumstances I have thought it my Duty to inform you of, that you may honour me with your Commands thereon, likewise as to the Manner in which you would chuse I should remit the Fifty thousand Benares Sicca Rupees that have been paid me.

Benares,
7th October, 1778.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) Thomas Graham, Resident.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham :

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 7th Instant.

Our's of the 12th will have apprized you, that the Balance of the Subsidy of Five Lacks, required from the Rajah, has been discharged in full by Bills transmitted to us through the Channel of his Vackeel.

With respect to the Sum of Fifty thousand Rupees which the Rajah has paid into your Hands, we desire you will remit it, in such Manner as you shall think most adviseable, to the Presidency.

We are, &c.

Fort William, the 19th July 1779.

Secret Department.

At a Council; PRESENT,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,

Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler,

Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote indisposed.

The Governor General delivers in the following Minute :

Governor General.—It having been resolved in Secret Consultation, 9th July 1778, “ That Rajah Cheyt Sing should be required in Form to contribute his Share of the Burthen of the present War with France, by the Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be raised and maintained at his Expence; ” and the Amount of the Subsidy fixed by the Board in Consultation of the 17th August following, and agreed by him to be paid, for One Year, being Five Lacks of Mutchledar Rupees; as the Year is now expired, I move, That he be at this Time required to contribute the like Sum, as his Share for the Expence of the War for the current Year.

Agreed to the Governor General's Proposal.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham :

Sir,

The Period of One Year, for which Rajah Cheyt Sing contributed the Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees, as his Proportion of the Burthen of the War with France for the last Year, being expired, and the War still continuing, we find it necessary to maintain the same Force, and to require that the Rajah shall bear his Share of the Expence; you will therefore at this Time demand from him Payment of the above Sum, as his Proportion of the Charge for the Current Year, and remit the Amount of it to us.

Fort William, 19th July 1779.

We are, &c.

Agreed, That the Governor General be requested to write to Rajah Cheyt Sing, acquainting him that the Period of One Year, for which he agreed to pay Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees, as his Share of the Burthen of the War with France, on the 17th August 1778, is expired; and as the Continuation of the War makes it still necessary to maintain the same Establishment of Troops for the Defence of the Country, the Board deem it requisite that he should at this Time contribute the further Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees, as his Share of the Charge for the current Year: Mr. Graham has therefore been directed to apply to him for the same.

Warren Hastings,
P. Francis,
Edwa Wheler.

To

To Rajah Cheyt Sing. Written the 21st July 1779.

The Term of your Engagement for the Payment of an Annual Subsidy, as your Share of the Expence of the War, being expired, and the War still continuing, and the same Force being necessary to be kept up, I am therefore to desire that you will pay to Mr. Thomas Graham the further Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees, as your Proportion for the present Year. Mr. Graham has accordingly Orders to receive it from you, and it is necessary that you do not delay to pay it to him.

Fort William, the 26th August 1779.

Secret Department.

At a Council; PRESENT,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
 Richard Barwell, } Esquires,
 Philip Francis, }
 Edward Wheler, }
 Lieutenant General Sir Eyre Coote, K. B.

Read the following Letter from Mr. Thomas Graham:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Immediately on the Receipt of your Honourable Board's Letter of the 19th Ultimo, directing me to demand of Rajah Cheyt Sing Payment of the Sum of Five Lacks of Mutchlidar Rupees, as his annual Proportion of the Burthen of the present War with France, I waited upon him; and at the same Time that I communicated the Orders of your Honourable Board myself, I delivered to him the Honourable the Governor General's Letter to him in Confirmation thereof. He then gave me for Answer, that he had not the Ability to discharge the Demand. As this was similar to the Answer he gave me when I demanded Payment of his Subsidy for the last Year, I did not consider it as a definitive One, and therefore continued in renewing my Demand every Second Day; finding, however, that he holds to the Terms of his first Reply, and seeing no Probability of a speedy Change in his Sentiments, I am unavoidably reduced to the Necessity of applying for your Honourable Board's further Instructions on this Head. Until they arrive, I shall follow the Orders already sent me, by repeating my Request for Payment every Second or Third Day.

Benares,
 16th August 1779.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
 (Signed) Thos Graham, Resident.

Read a Letter from Rajah Cheyt Sing, as follows:

From Rajah Cheyt Sing. Received 27th August 1779.

I have been honoured with your Letter, calling on me for the Payment of Five Lacks of Rupees on Account of the Expence of the War for the present Year, and understand its Contents.

My Situation is well known to you; and I assure you, without Reserve, that I have no Ability left; nor is there any Mode of Relief for me, but in the Exertion of your Favour. I am fully convinced that it is your Desire, who are my Master, to support me your Servant; and last Year you directed Sheikh Ally Nucky, that I should by any Means, by disposing of my Effects, or by borrowing, make this one Payment, and I should not be called on in future, and that you would take every Means for my Advantage and Support.

I accordingly put in practice every Method in my Power, and by Loans made good the Requisition. It is now absolutely out of my Power to raise the Sum required, and I am therefore hopeful that you will be kindly pleased to excuse me the Five Lacks now demanded, and that nothing may be demanded of me beyond the Amount expressed in the Pottah, which through your Favour obtained from the Honourable English Company.

This Rije and Zemindary, and my Dignity, are the Gifts of your Highness. I have judged it necessary to represent to you my Inability and helpless State.

Governor General.—I move, That the Commander in Chief be directed to issue an Order for the March of Two Battalions of Sepoys, from the nearest Station of the Army, excepting the first and temporary Brigades, to Benares, on the Requisition of Mr. Graham, and there to remain for the further Orders of the Board: That the whole Expence of this Detachment, from the Day of its March, be exacted from the Rajah of Benares: That this Resolution be communicated to him by the Governor General; and that the Resident be ordered to inform the Rajah of it, repeating his Demand for the Sum required; and in

case of his Refusal or Non-compliance with his Demand, to give immediate Notice to the Officer in Command of the Detachment, that he may march accordingly.

Sir Eyre Coote.—Agrees to the Motion.

Mr. Wheler.—I am against it.

Mr. Francis.—I never approved of the additional Demand beyond his stipulated Tribute: I cannot therefore concur in the Measure proposed. I firmly believe it to be unnecessary, even for its avowed Purpose; and I am very much afraid that it will be attended with Consequences ruinous to the Rajah and to his Country. That Country is now one of the richest Jewels we possess. The great Revenue we draw from that Country may be permanently secured under mild and equitable Treatment. Measures of a different Nature may extort more for a Moment; but they will ruin the future Resource.

Mr. Barwell.—It rests with the Rajah himself to discharge his Quota of the Expence of the War voluntarily, or to be compelled to it. I agree to the Motion.

Governor General.—Benares is not a Jewel in our Possession, if we leave the Rajah an Option to obey or disobey the Orders of his superior Government, and to maintain himself in the Independency of a tributary Prince. As to the Ruin portended from this Order, the Terms of the Question itself put it in his Power to prevent even the Execution of the Order, and more I shall not at this Time say upon the Subject; I may hereafter.

Agreed to the Governor General's Motion: And,

Resolved, That the Commander in Chief be requested to give Orders to Major Camac, or the Officer in Command of his Detachment, for the March of Two Battalions of Sepoys to Benares, on the Requisition of Mr. Thomas Graham, the Resident there, and to remain at that Place for further Orders.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham:

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 16th Instant, acquainting us that Rajah Cheyt Sing had declined to pay the Five Lacks of Rupees which were required of him as his Proportion of the Expences of the War for the current Year.

Having judged it necessary to make this Claim, which was suggested to us by the Exigency of the Case, we cannot admit of any Plea which the Rajah may urge to exempt him from it. Orders have therefore been sent to Major Camac, or the Officer in Command of his Detachment, to march to Benares immediately on your Requisition, with Two Battalions of Sepoys, and to wait our further Orders at that Place. We have thought this Step necessary for the Purpose of compelling the Rajah to pay the Quota required of him in case of Necessity; and we direct that you repeat your Demand, and insist on his Compliance. If the Rajah should still continue to object to your Claim, and refuse Payment, you are to require the Officer in Command of the Detachment, to march immediately in conformity to our Orders, and advise us of your Proceedings. We hope, however, that you will not be reduced to proceed to this Extreme, as it would oblige us to increase our Demands on the Rajah, by exacting from him the whole Expence of the Detachment from the Day of its March, in Addition to our original Claim.

We are, &c,

Fort William,
the 26th August 1779.

Warren Hastings,
P. Francis,
Edwd Wheler.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing: Written the 28th August 1779.

I have received your Letter in Reply to the one I wrote to you, requiring the Payment of Five Lacks of Rupees, as your Share for the present Year of the Expences of the War; and am greatly astonished at your Refusal and pretended Plea of Inability, it being very inconsistent with the Duty you owe to the Company. I now repeat my Demand, that you do, on the Receipt of this, without Evasion or Delay, pay the Five Lacks of Rupees into the Hands of Mr. Thomas Graham, who has Orders to receive it from you, and Authority, in case of your Refusal, to summon the Two Battalions of Sepoys under the Command of Major Camac to Benares, that Measures may be taken to oblige you to a Compliance; and and in this Case the whole Expence of this Corps, from the Time of its March, will fall on you.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, the 13th September 1779.

Read a Letter from Mr. Graham, as follows:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs.

I have been this Day honoured with the Receipt of your Letter of the 19th August.

In compliance with your Honourable Board's Orders, to revert to the usuals Mode of receiving Payment of the Rajah's Tribute by Bills of Exchange on Calcutta, I have accordingly

cordingly written to him to furnish me with them, for the amount of his Kist, which becomes due the 4th Instant.

In my Address of the 15th Ultimo I acquainted your Honourable Board with my Proceedings to that Time, regarding the Demand of Five Lacks made on the Rajah, as his Proportion of the Burthen of the War with France; since then I have, as I informed your Honourable Board I should, renewed my Application for Payment, either verbally or by Letter, every Second or Third Day; but his Answer has been uniformly the same, that he has not the Ability to discharge it. I have, exclusive of these repeated Applications, also used every Argument in my Power to convince him, that as a Subject of Government, it was a Duty inseparable from his Allegiance to afford every Assistance it might require whilst it was engaged in a War, and that a Denial under such circumstances was never admitted of.

I shall continue to impress him with those Sentiments, and to urge him to make Payment, until I receive the further Instructions of your Honourable Board for my future Conduct.

I have the Honour, &c.

Benares,
the 2d September 1779.

(Signed) Thos Graham, Resident.

From Rajah Cheyt Sing to Mr. Graham, 20th September 1779.

I received your Letter about the Five Lacks of Rupees, and understand the Contents. I have before made known to you my distressed Situation, that I have not Power to comply, and I have also sent an Arzie, in Answer to the Letter from the Presence which you delivered to me. I have no Power to comply: I discharge the Revenue according to the Pottah granted by the Sirkar. I am hopeful that this Order may be revoked; for which Purpose I have also written an Arzie to the Presence, and request that you will oblige me, by dispatching it without Delay.

Enclosure in the foregoing.

From Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Governor General.

Every two or Three Days am I called upon to pay Five Lacks of Rupees: Your gracious Letter on this Subject honoured me by its Arrival. I have dispatched an Arzie in Answer, which will have been presented to you. In Obedience to your Order, I last Year, by every Means, and borrowing from all Quarters, raised the Sum: and at that Time you promised that it should not happen again. I have it not in my Power at present. You have before honoured me with the Title of Son, and regarding me as your Son, you have protected me; I am therefore hopeful that I may be excused from this Requisition.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing: Written 25th September 1779.

I have received your Letter; from the Contents of which, as well as from the Letters of Mr. Graham, and the Copy of a Letter which you wrote to that Gentleman, and which he transmitted for my Inspection, it appears but too clearly, that instead of a cheerful Compliance with the Requisition of this Government in the immediate Payment of the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees, as your Share for the Expence of the War for the present Year, a Requisition which the great Burthen of Expence under which the Company labour for the Defence of the Country renders necessary, and to which you, as a Subject of theirs, are bound to contribute, have thought proper, under the Plea of Inability, which is well known to be futile, to endeavour to amuse the Resident with vague and distant Promises, meaning probably to protract, if not entirely evade, Payment of the Sum required of you. In a Letter which I lately wrote you, I informed you in express Terms that this Government neither could or would recede from so reasonable a Demand; and added, that in case of no Compliance on your Part, Mr. Graham was authorized to summon a Detachment of our Forces to enforce our Orders if it should be found necessary. This I hoped would have opened your Eyes, and induced you to relinquish a Conduct which must, if pursued, bring the greatest Disadvantages on you. But since even this Intimation of our Determination has proved ineffectual, I now think it necessary to inform you, that we have desired the Commander in Chief to dispatch Major Camac, with the Detachment under his Command, to Benares, there to wait our further Orders; he will accordingly begin his March immediately, unless the Resident in the mean Time, from the actual Receipt of the Subsidy, shall inform him that it is unnecessary, for him to proceed further; and you will be pleased to observe, that should you force us to a Measure so contrary to our Wishes, the whole Expence of the Detachment, from the Time of its March, will be required from you, exclusive of the Subsidy for the War.

Copy of a Letter from Rajah Cheyt Sing, in Reply to Mr. Graham: Received the 25th September 1779.

I have received your Letter, accompanied by One from the Nabob Amaud ul Dowlah, Governor General, Jelladut Jung, and understand the Contents.

You press me to return an Answer to the Letter from the Presence.—My Friend! I have already represented to you personally my absolute Inability; but as a fresh Order is arrived from the Presence for the Payment of the said Sum, and you, through Motives of Friendship, press me on the Subject, being remediless I have, notwithstanding my absolute Inability, which exceeds Description, consented this once to comply with the Orders of the Presence. I will, by every possible Means, by taking up Loans, comply with the Orders from the Presence, and pay it gradually to you.

I am hopeful, from your Kindness and Regard, that you will use every Means to secure me the future Support and Favour of the Presence.

From Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Governor General. Received 25th September 1779.

I have been honoured with your gracious Letter, urging me in the strongest Terms to the Payment of Five Lacks of Rupees on account of the Share of the Expences of the War for the present Year, and understand your Pleasure. Regarding your Highness as my Master, in the Representation which I sent you of my Poverty and absolute Inability, I had no View of preserving my Property, and deceiving you by false Pretences; but I had really no Property left but what is apparent to every Body, such as Elephants, Horses, &c. which for the Support of my Credit I am obliged to keep, since that Credit is the Gift of your Highness's Bounty; but since you have been pleased to direct that I should raise the Sum by any Means I can, I regard it as the Effect of my evil Destiny that the Representation of my Situation had no Weight, and submit to the Necessity of this once complying with your Order. Notwithstanding the Greatness of my Poverty, which exceeds all Description, I will make good the Sum gradually by the Disposal of my Effects, and by Loans, the Particulars of which I cannot fully explain to you.

Since you have honoured me, your most faithful and obedient Dependant, with the greatest Marks of Favour and Regard, even to the honouring me with the Title of your Son, I am hopeful, from the Continuance of that Regard, that you will in future continually keep in View my Welfare and Interest, and will be kindly pleased to excuse me from Services which are beyond my Ability to perform, on a Compliance with which my Support, nay even Life, and the Prosperity of the Country depends.

Fort William, 29th September 1779.

Secret Department.

At a Council; P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President

Richard Barwell, }
and } Esquires.

Edward Wheler, }

Mr. Francis indisposed,

Sir Eyre Coote gone to review the Army.

Read the following Letters from Mr. Graham, Resident at Benares:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I had last Night the Honour of receiving your Letter of the 26th Ultimo, directing me to repeat the Claim which your Honourable Board had thought proper to make of Rajah Cheyt Sing, for Five Lacks of Rupees, as his annual Proportion of the Expence of the present War, and empowering me, in case of his persisting in refusing Payment, to require Major Camac, with Two Battalions of Sepoys, to march to this Place, and to wait your further Orders.

Having also received the Honourable the Governor General's Persian Letter to the Rajah on the Subject, I have sent it to him, with a Letter from myself, requiring his immediate Compliance with the Orders contained therein, and desiring that he would forthwith send a Person properly qualified to make Payment to me of the Five Lacks of Rupees, and further to send me a Reply to the Governor General's Letter. I shall immediately do myself the Honour to address you on the Receipt of his Answer, which I flatter myself will prove satisfactory, and that I shall not be under the Necessity of making use of

of the discretionary Power which your Honourable Board have been pleased to lodge in me, in order to compel him to Payment.

Benares,
the 10th Sept 1779.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) Tho: Graham,
Resident.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have this Day received an Answer from Rajah Cheyt Sing to the Letter which I informed your Honourable Board I had written to him on the 10th, requiring his Compliance with your Orders; wherein he sends me an Answer to the Governor General's Letter, which I have transmitted to him, and acquaints me with his having consented to the Payment of the Five Lacks of Rupees. As however he still holds forth his original Plea of Inability, I have every Reason to apprehend he will be very dilatory in his Payments; I beg therefore to be favoured with your Honourable Board's Orders, as to the Conduct which in such Case I must observe towards him.

Benares,
12th September 1779.

I have, &c. &c.
Tho: Graham,
Resident.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs

I have herewith the Honour to transmit you Twelve Bills of Exchange, for the Sum of Calcutta Sicca Rupees 1,85,145. 6. 16. 1. drawn in favour of the Honourable Company, as *per* accompanying Invoice, being on Account of Rajah Cheyt Sing's Gifts due the 4th Instant, and in Part Payment of his Annual Tribute.

Although Four complete Days are now elapsed since I had the Honour of informing you of the Rajah's having consented to the Payment of the Five Lacks of Rupees; and although I sent him a suitable Reply to the Letter he wrote me on the Occasion, and at the same Time repeated my Request for a Person being sent to me sufficiently qualified for discharging the Amount; no one has yet come, nor has any Money been yet paid me: On the contrary, through his Vackeel, he has solicited to be indulged with Time, but without specifying any Period; which leaving Room for no other Answer than to desire him to conform to the Orders he had received from your Honourable Board through the Channel of the Governor General, I have sent a Person to attend at his Durbar, to require his speedy Compliance therewith.

Benares,
16th September 1779:

I have, &c. &c.
Tho: Graham,
Resident.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I had the Honour of addressing you last Night, informing your Honourable Board of the Steps I had taken towards obtaining the Payment of the Five Lacks of Rupees from Rajah Cheyt Sing. I this Day received a Letter from him; of which I beg Leave to submit to your Consideration the following Translate:

"The Situation of my Affairs is well known to you; and I have repeatedly represented the Particulars to you. The Five Lacks of Rupees, on account of a Proportion of the Expences of the War, conformably to the Injunctions of the Honourable English Company, I have for this Time agreed to pay; neither am I dilatory or inattentive in providing for its Discharge; but the Amount is considerable, and can only be liquidated by Degrees. Within the Space of Four Months I will pay it to you by Instalments: To the End of the Month of Zelledge," (corresponding nearly to the Middle of the English Month of January ensuing) "I will complete Payment of the Whole. What is now preparing, in Part of the aforesaid Sum of Five Lacks, shall be paid to you on Thursday next, the 12th of Rumzan. My Thoughts are not a Moment at rest from this Matter. But, from incessant Applications, Inconveniencies are occasioned to the Provision, and my Endeavours are interrupted. From your Indulgence, I will discharge the Amount in the Manner above specified."

I shall be glad to be honoured with your Orders on the Subject of the foregoing Letter: In the Interim I considered it consistent with the Spirit of those Orders already received from your Honourable Board, to reject the Propositions therein contained, and to repeat my Demand for Payment of the Whole without Delay.

Benares,
17th September 1779.

I have, &c. &c.
Tho: Graham,
Resident.

Governor General.—As it appears by the last of the above Letters from Mr. Graham, that Rajah Cheyt Sing, whose present Ability to discharge the full Amount of the Sum demanded of him cannot be doubted, is endeavouring to amuse our Resident with Delays, and as his Reply, although it professes an Intention of Compliance with his Claim, is a plain Evasion of it, I think Mr. Graham, according to the Spirit of the Orders he had

had received, ought to have required the immediate March of Major Camac's Detachment, to enforce Payment from the Rajah; but as he has omitted to act in this Manner, and as it appears to be his Intention to wait for the further Orders of the Board, I move, That the Contents of his Letters be imparted to the Commander in Chief, and that he be desired to send Orders forthwith to Major Camac to march without Delay, in Conformity to his former Instructions, giving Notice of the Day on which he shall move from his present Station to Mr. Graham, that the Expences of the Detachment, from that Time until its Return, may be charged to the Rajah; and that Major Camac do continue his Route with the Two Battalions under his Command to Benares, unless Mr. Graham, upon the full Receipt of the Subsidy, shall notify to him that there is no Necessity for his Proceeding. I further move, that Letters to the same Effect be prepared and dispatched to Mr. Graham and Rajah Cheyt Sing.

Mr. Wheler.—I object to the above Orders.

Resolved, That the following Letters be written to the Commander in Chief and Mr. Graham; and that the Governor General be likewise desired to write a Letter to the same Effect to Rajah Cheyt Sing.

To the Commander in Chief.

Sir,

As it is implied, by the enclosed Copies of Letters which we have received from our Resident at Benares, that Rajah Cheyt Sing means to protract, if not entirely to evade Payment of the Five Lacks of Rupees required of him, as his Share of the Expences of the War for the current Year, by his distant and illusory Promises, although there can be no Doubt of his present Ability to discharge the Demand, if he thought proper, we conceive that some effectual Means should be taken to compel him to it.

Mr. Graham has not yet required the March of Major Camac's Detachment, in obedience to the Letter of our Orders to him; we therefore request that you will issue fresh Orders for this Detachment to repair forthwith to Benares, and there to wait, according to your former Instructions; unless Mr. Graham, in consequence of the full Receipt of the Subsidy, shall inform the Officer in Command of it, that his Proceeding is thereby rendered unnecessary. It will be proper likewise to direct, that the Day of March be notified to Mr. Graham, in order to enable him to claim the Expences of the Detachment from that Time till its Return to Dinapore, from the Rajah.

Fort William,

We are, &c. &c.

29th September 1779.

To Benares.

Sir,

We have received your Letters of the 10th, 12th, 16th, and 17th Instant.

As we conceive that the Rajah means to amuse you with vague and distant Promises, and thereby to protract, if not entirely to evade Payment of the Sum required as his Proportion of the Expences of the War for the current Year, we are of Opinion that compulsory Means should be immediately used to oblige him to discharge it, since there can be no Doubt of his present Ability. We have therefore desired the Commander in Chief to issue his Orders to Major Camac, to march forthwith to Benares with the Detachment under his Command, and there to wait our further Orders; unless you in the mean Time, from the actual Receipt of the Subsidy, shall inform him that it is unnecessary to proceed any further. Major Camac will advise you on what Day he shall have marched from Dinapore; and we direct, that you insist on the Rajah's paying the Expences of the Detachment from that Time till its Return to the same Place, exclusive of the Subsidy for the War.

Fort William,
29th September 1779.

We are, &c. &c.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
Edw^d Wheler.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council in their public Department, the 25th October 1779.

Read the following Letters from Mr. Graham:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Rajah Cheyt Sing not having yet completed Payment of One Lack of Rupees in Part of his Subsidy of Five Lack, notwithstanding agreeable to his own voluntary Proposal, whereof I transmitted you a Translate in my Address of the 17th Ultimo, he ought Twelve Days ago to have paid me a Lack and Twenty-five Thousand, I have, believing it to be consistent with the Spirit of your Honourable Board's Instructions, dated the 26th August, in order to enforce Payment, this Day written to Major Camac, requiring him with

with the Detachment under his Command, to march to this Place with all convenient Expedition.

Benares,
the 3d October, 1779.

I have the Honour, &c.
Thos Graham,
Resident.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the Receipt of your Letter of the 29th Ultimo.

My Address to your Honourable Board of the 3d Instant, acquainted you not only of the Rajah's Continuation to procrastinate the Payment of the whole Subsidy, but of his Failure in particular in the Payment of that Proportion which he had himself voluntarily fixed a Time for discharging, and of my having in consequence sent the necessary Notice to Major Camac to march with the Detachment under his Command to this Place. Your further Instructions on this Subject now before me, shall be punctually attended to. The Rajah, notwithstanding he has been repeatedly made acquainted with your Honourable Board's determined Resolution to obtain speedy Payment, and of the Consequences attendant on Delays, has only, to this Day, paid me the Sum of One Lack and Nineteen thousand Rupees; he now offers in Excuse, a general Scarcity of Specie; what may be his Conduct on the Approach of the Detachment you shall be duly informed of.

I have herewith the Honour to transmit you Fifteen Bills of Exchange for the Sum of Calcutta Sicca Rupees, 1,85,145. 6. 16. 1. drawn in favour of the Honourable Company as per accompanying Invoice, being on Account of Rajah Cheyt Sing's Kist due the 4th Instant, and in Part Payment of his annual Tribute.

Benares,
the 12th October 1779.

I have the Honour, &c.
(Signed) Thos Graham,
Resident.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Graham :

(Extract)

Sir,

The Provincial Council at Patna, having still occasion for an extraordinary Supply of Cash to answer their current Disbursements, we direct that you remit to them the Amount which you may have received or shall receive from the Rajah on account of his Subsidy for this Year by Bills of Exchange; in the Negotiation of which we need not recommend to you to fix the Exchange at the most favourable Rate you can obtain.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Secret Department, 28th October 1779.

Read the following Letter from Mr. Graham :

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

The Purpose of this is to inform you, that the Dinapore Detachment, under the Command of Captain Crabb, arrived here this Morning, and have for the present encamped contiguous to Ramnagur. As the Rajah has only yet paid Half the Amount of the Subsidy, vizt. 2,50,000 Rupees, One Lack of which was paid me Yesterday, I conclude, therefore, that in Two or Three Days more he will discharge the Whole; at least he acquainted me so by the Person who came with the last Payment. I shall send your Honourable Board daily Information of his Conduct.

Benares,
19th October 1779.

I have the Honour to be, &c.
(Signed) Thos Graham,
Resident.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Secret Department, 1st November 1779.

Sir,

Since writing the foregoing, the General has desired me to request you will inform the Governor, that the Two Battalions of Sepoys ordered to Benares, being in want of their Pay, he has directed the Resident to issue it to them from his Treasury, which he imagines will be sufficient Authority for Mr. Graham, but would rather it should be confirmed by the Governor General.

I am, &c.

W^m Tierney.

Agreed, That his Application to Mr. Graham be confirmed by the following Orders :

To Mr. Thomas Graham.

Sir,

We have received your Letters of the 20th and 22d Ultimo.

Our last Orders concerning the Disposal of the Sum which you have received from Rajah Cheyt Sing, on account of his Subsidy for this Year, directed the Remittance of

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it to the Chief and Council at Patna; but as we understand that the Two Battalions of Sepoys which marched to Benares, will require an Advance for their Pay, and that the Commander in Chief has applied to you to make an Advance for that Purpose, you will accordingly comply with his Desire, and remit the Residue, which shall remain in your Hands of the Subsidy, together with the Amount, which you will demand and receive from the Rajah for the Expences of the Detachment, from the Date of its quitting Dinapore until the Amount of the Five Lacks was completely discharged, to Patna, agreeable to our former Instructions.

Fort William,
2d November 1779.

We are, &c.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, the 6th December 1779.

Read the following Letter from Mr. Graham :

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the Receipt of your Letters of the 2d and 15th Instant.

I shall follow the Directions of the Commander in Chief, who is now here, regarding the Pay of the Two Battalions at this Place; and shall, agreeably to your Instructions, remit what may remain of the Subsidy of Five Lacks received from Rajah Cheyt Sing, to the Provincial Council of Revenue at Patna: Hitherto I have only been able to send them Bills for 80,000 Sonaut Rupees.

I have made public the Orders of the Court of Directors, continuing the Powers of Government vested in your Honourable Board by the Act of Parliament.

I have herewith the Honour to transmit you Eight Bills of Exchange, for the Sum of Calcutta Sicca Rupees 1,85,145. 6. 16. 1. drawn in Favour of the honourable Company, as per accompanying Invoice, being on Account of Rajah Cheyt Sing's Kist due the 4th Instant, and in Part Payment of his Annual Tribute.

I have the Honour, &c.

Benares,
the 27th November 1779.

(Signed) Tho^s Graham,
Resident.

Ordered, That the Bills inclosed in the foregoing Letter be sent to the Treasury.

From Rajah Cheyt Sing.—Received the 16th December 1779.

Your gracious Letter, directing me to pay without Delay the Sum of Five Lacks of Rupees, as my Share of the Expences of the War for this Year, honoured me by its Arrival, and made me acquainted with your Pleasure. My Protector! before the Arrival of your Orders, I had paid 1,50,000 Rupees to Mr. Thomas Graham; and immediately on the Receipt, I sent the Balance of 3,50,000 Rupees to the said Gentleman. I was not forgetful of it for one Instant. As the Troops were sent here, I have given that Gentleman their Pay from the Day of their March till the Day that the Sum was discharged, which was not quite Fifteen Days. I am hopeful, that considering me to be attached to you from of old, you will protect and support me by your Favour and Friendship, that my Honour and Dignity may be encreased by it.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, the 23d December 1779.

Read a Letter from the Resident at Benares, as follows :

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the Receipt of your Letter of the 29th November, and in Compliance with the Directions therein contained, have herewith the Honour to enclose you Five Bills of Exchange for Calcutta Sicca Rupees 2,64,342. 11. 6. drawn in your Honourable Board's Favour, as per Invoice, being in Exchange for Benares Sicca Rupees 2,81,150. the Amount Balance of the Subsidy in my Hands, as per Account Current enclosed.

The Rates at which I have negociated the aforesaid Five Bills are 1 per Cent. and $\frac{3}{4}$ per Cent. within the Rate allowed to Rajah Cheyt Sing in the adjustment of his Tribute.

I have the Honour, &c.

Benares,
the 10th December 1779.

(Signed) Tho^s Graham,
Resident.

Thomas

Dr.		Thomas Graham, in Account with the Honourable Company.		Cr.	
		To Cash received from Rajah Cheyt Sing as follows, for his Subsidy, on Account his Proportion of the Expences of the present War.		By the Patna Council of Revenue, remitted them as follows by Bills of Exchange :	
1779.	Received this Day			1779.	
Sept. 30th.	D°	—	25,000	Nov. 8th.	One Bill for Patna Sonaut Rupees 40,000
October 1st.	D°	—	24,000	15th.	One D° for D° 30,000
2d.	D°	—	20,000	16th.	One D° for D° 10,000
3d.	D°	—	20,000		
5th.	D°	—	20,000		Patna Sonaut Rupees 80,000 at the
7th.	D°	—	10,000		Exchange of 106. 8. Benares Sicca Rupees per
9th.	D°	—	10,000		100 Patna S ^{rs} , is —
15th.	D°	—	10,000	30th.	By Cash advanced at sundry Periods to Captain
18th.	D°	—	20,500		Crabb, commanding a Detachment from Dina-
19th.	D°	—	10,500		pore, on account of the Expences thereof, to
20th.	D°	—	1,00,000		the End of November, as per his Receipts —
21st.	D°	—	1,90,000	Dec. 7th.	By the Patna Council of Revenue, remitted them
	D°	—	60,000		by a Bill of Exchange for Patna Sonaut Rupees
Nov. 29th.	D°	—			53,000, at the Exchange of 105 Benares Sicca
					Rupees per 100 Patna Sonauts, is —
	To Cash received from Rajah Cheyt Sing, for the				
	Expences of the Detachment from Dinagepore,				
	from the Day of its March from thence till the				
	Subsidy of Five Lacks was completed, being				
	14 Days.				
			20,000	10th.	By Balance remitted this Day by Bills of Exchange,
					as per Invoice —
			5,20,000		
					Benares Sicca Rupees, 5,20,000

Benares, the 10th December 1779.
(Errors excepted)
per Thos Graham,
Resident.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 13th March 1780.

Par. 41. We thought it necessary and consistent to demand a further Contribution of Five Lacks of Rupees from Rajah Cheyt Sing, for his Part of the Expences of the War for the current Year, being the same Sum as he paid towards that and for the last Year. The Rajah strongly pleaded his Inability to comply with this Demand, and even suffered us to send Two Battalions of Sepoys from Dinapore to Benares to enforce Payment, before he would grant it; at length, however, with much Difficulty the Amount was received from him, added to a Penalty of 20,000 Rs for the Expences of the Two Battalions until their Arrival at Benares.

42. We shall make but this short Observation upon the Conduct of the Rajah, that whether it proceeded from the Apprehension of establishing a Precedent for exceeding the Sum of his annual and stipulated Revenue, or from a Sense of Independency, it was equally unseasonable, and an ungrateful Return for the Benefits which he has been allowed to derive from the Company's Protection.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Secret Department, the 22d June 1780.

Governor General.—The Period of Two Years, for each of which the Rajah of Benares, at the Requisition of the Board, has contributed the Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees as his Proportion of the Burthen of the War with France, being nearly expired, and that War still continuing, I move, That he be now called upon to contribute the like Sum, as his Share of the Expence of it for the current Year.

Agreed to the Governor General's Motion.

The following Letter is in consequence written to the Resident at Benares :

To Mr. Francis Fowke.

Sir,

The Period of Two Years, for each of which Rajah Cheyt Sing has contributed the Sum of Five Lacks of Mucklidar Rupees, as his Proportion of the Burthen of the War with France, being nearly expired, and the War still continuing, we find it necessary to maintain the same Force, and to require that the Rajah shall be at his Share of the Expence; we therefore direct that you demand from him Payment of the above Sum, as his Proportion of the Charge for the current Year, and remit the Amount of it to us.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
22d June 1780.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing :—Written 22d June 1780.

The Period of the Second Year, for which on the 17th August 1778 you agreed to pay the annual Subsidy of Five Lacks Muckledar Rupees, as your Share of the Burthen of the War with France, being expired, and the Continuation of the War making it still necessary to keep up the same Force for the Defence of the Country, I am therefore to desire you to contribute the further Sum of 5 Lacks of Muckledar Rupees, as your Share of the Charge for the present Year. Mr. Fowke has accordingly been directed to apply to you for the same. It is necessary that you do not delay to pay it to him.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council, in their Public Department, the 7th September 1780.

Read the following Letters from the Resident at Benares :

Extract, dated 21st July 1780.

In Obedience to your Orders of the 22d Ultimo, I have demanded of Rajah Cheyt Sing the Sum of Five Lacks of Mutchlidar Rupees, as his Proportion of the Burthen of the present War with France. The Rajah has desired me to inform you of his entire Submission to your Commands. He has promised to pay One Lack of this Amount within a few Days. I shall immediately advise your Honourable Board of the Receipt of it, and shall remit it upon the most advantageous Terms I can obtain; I shall likewise urge the Rajah in the strongest Manner possible, to use the utmost Expedition in the Discharge of the remaining Part.

Extract of Letter from the Resident at Benares, dated 10th August 1780.

——— I have received from the Rajah One Lack of Rupees, in Part Payment of his Subsidy; and I have the Honour to enclose Bills of Exchange for the Amount of this Sum, drawn as *per* accompanying Invoice.

I have urged the Rajah very strongly to complete the Payment of his Subsidy with all possible Expedition; but I find he is determined to make no further Payment till he receives an Answer to his Arzee, transmitted in my Letter of the 5th Instant to the Honourable Governor General.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from the Rajah of Benares, referred to in the Letter from the Resident above recorded :

Arzee from Rajah Cheyt Sing: Received 21st August 1780.

I have been honoured by your Orders, directing me to pay Five Lacks of Sicca Mayhadar Rupees to Mr. Fowke, for the War which still continues; and although my distressed Situation must be known to you from other Quarters, notwithstanding I have been afraid to represent it to you myself, that I have sold my House, and borrowed Sums of Money, from which I am not yet released; yet, in obedience to your Orders, I have paid One Lack of Rupees out of the Five Lacks to Mr. Fowke, and shall pay the other Four in Three Months. I request you will send Directions to that Gentleman to allow me that Time, and it shall be punctually paid at the End of that Term. You yourself must be convinced that I have no Abilities or Resources left.

Ordered, That Mr. Fowke do inform the Rajah, that the Board are much displeased with these affected Delays, knowing his Ability to make the immediate Payment of the Subsidy; and that he peremptorily require him to discharge it.

Ordered, That Mr. Fowke be desired to remit the Sum, when received, by Shroffs Bills if possible, or by any safe Mode of Remittance, to Major Camac, for the Expences of the Detachment under his Command; and that Major Camac be advised accordingly.

The following Letter is accordingly written to Mr. Francis Fowke :

Sir,

We have received your Letters under Date the 21st July, 10th and 20th August, with the Bills and Accounts enclosed: We have also had before us the Rajah's Letter to the Governor General, to which you allude in your Address of the 10th Ultimo.

We desire that you will inform the Rajah of Benares, that knowing his Ability to make quick Payment of the whole Amount of the Subsidy, we are much displeased with the groundless Pretences which he urges for delaying it; and we direct, that on Receipt of this Letter you peremptorily demand his immediate Discharge of the Sum due from him on this Account; which, when you have received it, we desire you will remit, either by Shroff Bills if possible, or by any other safe Mode, to Major Camac, for the Expences of the Troops under his Command.

We are, &c.

Fort William
7th September 1780.

Agreed, That we write the following Letter to Major Camac :

Sir,

The Rajah of Benares being indebted to the Company in the Sum of Four Lacks of Mutchiladar Rupees, we have sent Orders to our Resident at that Place to demand immediate Payment of it, and to remit the Amount, when received, to you, by Shroff Bills if possible, or by any other safe Mode, for the Purpose of defraying the Expences of the Troops under your Command: We desire, therefore, that on the Receipt of the Remittances made you by the Resident at Benares, you will appropriate them to the Service for which they are intended.

Having thought proper to add the Corps of foreign Rangers now at Cawnpore to the Detachment under your Command, the Commander in Chief has been requested to issue the necessary Orders for carrying this Resolution into Effect.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
7th September 1780.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, 9th October 1780.

Extract of Letter from the Resident at Benares, dated 27th September 1780.

I have received the Honour of your Letter of the 7th Instant, and have signified your Commands to the Rajah; he has promised to discharge the Balance of his Subsidy, being Rupees 2,53,000, in the Course of a few Days. I am treating with the Shroffs for a Remittance to Major Camac, and imagine I shall be able to effect it by Bills from them for the whole Amount.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, 26th October 1780.

The following Letter from the Resident at Benares having been circulated, was returned with the following Minute:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I think it incumbent upon me to inform you, that the Rajah, notwithstanding his solemn Assurances, has hitherto paid no Part of the Balance of his Subsidy specified in my Address of the 27th Ultimo. He has resumed his Plea of Inability; and I can form no Opinion how long he may think proper to protract the Payment.

I remain,

Benares,
5th October 1780.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs, &c.
(Signed)

F. Fowke,
Resident at Benares.

Governor General.—Such an Instance of Contempt shewn by the Rajah of Benares to the Authority of this Government, at a Time in which his Fidelity and Gratitude for the many Obligations which he owes to it, ought to have prompted him to make a voluntary Tender of that Aid which he now refuses after repeated Promises to grant it, merits some Mark at least of the Resentment of the Board. For that Reason I must recommend that Mr. Fowke be directed to demand instant Payment of the Balance due of his Subsidy; and if he shall not have paid it at the Time of the Receipt of this Letter, to exact from him, in the Name of the Board, the further Sum of One Lack of Rupees, as a Fine for his past Disobedience. That to enforce this Order, Brigadier General Stibbert be directed to issue Orders to the Commanding Officers of the Battalions of the nearest Stations to Benares, to march immediately to that Place, and to wait such Orders as may be hereafter transmitted to them. In the mean Time, the Board may be informed of the Reception given by the Rajah to the present Order, and it is hoped that it may be such as shall render it unnecessary to proceed to Extremities against him.

(Signed)

Warren Hastings.

I acquiesce, though I hope the Threat will be sufficient.

(Signed)

P. Francis.

Agreed.

(Signed)

E. Wheler.

Agreed that the following Letter be written to the Resident at Benares:

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 5th Instant, informing us that the Rajah, notwithstanding his solemn Assurances, has hitherto paid no Part of the Balance of his Subsidy specified in your Address of the 27th Ultimo; that he had resumed his Plea of Inability, and that you could form no Opinion how long he might think proper to protract the Payment.

This Conduct of the Rajah seems to us without Excuse; we direct therefore, that you demand instant Payment of the Balance due of his Subsidy, and if he shall not have discharged it at the Time of your Receipt of this Letter, that you exact from him, in the Name of the Board, the further Sum of One Lack of Rupees, as a Fine for his past Disobedience. To enforce the Compliance due to our Authority, and the Payment of the Sum required of him, we have given Orders that the Battalions at the Stations nearest to Benares should march immediately to that Place, and wait for such Directions as may hereafter be transmitted to the Officer commanding them.

Fort William,
19th October 1780.

We are, &c.

Agreed

Agreed that the following Letter be written to Brigadier General Stibbert:

Sir,

Having had late Occasion to be much dissatisfied with the Conduct of the Rajah of Benares towards the Government, in withholding the Payment of the Amount due from him as his Subsidy, we think it necessary to direct, and do direct you to issue Orders to the Commanding Officers of the Battalions at the Stations nearest to Benares, to march immediately to that Place, and wait such further Orders as may hereafter be transmitted to them.

Fort William,
19th October, 1780.

We are, &c.

Read Letter as follows from Brigadier General Stibbert:

Gentlemen,

In consequence of your Letter to me of Yesterday's Date, I dispatched Orders by last Night's Post to Captain Moses Crawford, commanding the 35th Battalion of Sepoys at Dinapore, to march with his Corps immediately to Benares, leaving behind him Two Companies of Sepoys as a Guard to these Cantonments. At the same Time I wrote to Captain Lucas, who commands the 36th Battalion of Sepoys, and whom I understand to be on Detachment from the 2d Brigade in the Gorrickpoor Districts, to proceed also without Delay to Benares; left, however, this Officer should have joined the 2d Brigade by Order of Colonel Morgan, or other Authority, I have directed the Colonel in such Event to detach the First Battalion for Duty at his Station on the required Service. I shall also this Day send Orders to Lieutenant Colonel Tottingham, commanding at Chunar Gur, to detach immediately to Benares Five Companies of Sepoys from the Battalion at that Garrison.

The Officers commanded on this Service are, according to your Desire, instructed to remain at Benares until further Orders.

Fort William,
20th October 1780.

I have the Honour, &c.
(Signed) G. Stibbert.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Public Department, the 2d November 1780.

The following Letter from the Resident at Benares having been received since the last Meeting, Orders were immediately issued for countermanding the March of the Troops ordered to Benares:

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

The Rajah has this Day given me Bills of Exchange on Ghohud in Favour of Major Camac, for the Balance which remained due on Account of his Subsidy, being Benares Sicca Rupees 2,50,000.

I shall make a further Remittance to Major Camac in a few Days, of the whole Amount which I have received from the Rajah in ready Money on this Account.

I have the Honour, &c.

Benares,
18th October 1780.

(Signed) F. Fowke.

Extract of the Proceedings of the Governor General and Council of Bengal, in their Secret Department, 2d November 1780.

Agreed that the Governor General be requested to write to the Rajah of Benares, requiring him to furnish such Part of the Cavalry entertained in his Service as he can spare for the Service of this Government, and to inform him what Number he can supply; that a Letter be written to Mr. Francis Fowke, directing him to make the same Requisition of the Rajah, and at the same Time, to obviate any Jealousy which the Rajah may conceive, that this may be converted to a permanent Imposition upon him, that the Board will require the Services of these Forces no longer than while the present War lasts, after which they will be returned.

Agreed that the following Letter be written to the Resident at Benares:

Sir,

On the Receipt of the Intimation conveyed to us in your Letter of the 18th Ultimo, Orders were issued to countermand the March of the Troops which were appointed to proceed to Benares in consequence of the Delays used by the Rajah in the Payment of his Subsidy.

Deeming it just and proper that the Rajah should be desired to afford every Assistance in his Power to this Government, to whose Protection and Support he owes all that he possesses, the Governor General has been requested to write to him, requiring him to furnish such Part of the Cavalry entertained in his Employ as he can spare for the Service

of

of the Company; but as some Jealousy and Apprehension may arise in the Rajah's Mind, that this Aid may be converted to a permanent Imposition on him, we think it necessary that such Fears should be obviated, and direct you therefore to assure him, that we shall require the Services of this Force no longer than during the Continuance of the present War, after which it will certainly be returned.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
2d November, 1780.

To Rajah Cheyt Sing, 2d November 1780:

Requiring him to furnish such Part of the Cavalry entertained in his Service as he can spare for the Service of this Government, and to inform the Governor General what Number he can supply.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 29th November 1780.

Par. 36. We have thought it necessary to require from the Rajah of Benares the same Subsidy for the ensuing Year that he paid in the last, as his Proportion of his Expence of the War. He for some Time hesitated to comply with the Demand, and we were obliged to resolve on Measures of Compulsion; but he has since paid the Amount, and we have stopped the Execution of those Measures. The Support which he receives from this Government, to whom he owes all that he possesses; the known Affluence of his Circumstances, notwithstanding his Pretexes to the contrary; and the Interest which he possesses, in chief over all other Persons subject to us, in the Company's Prosperity and Success, have induced us to require of him the Assistance of such a Body of Cavalry as he can spare for the Company's Employ, under a Promise made to him, that their Services will not be required beyond the Continuance of the War. We have also strongly recommended to the Nabob Vizier to require from Fyzoola Cawn the Quota of Troops, consisting of 5,000 Horse, stipulated by Treaty to be furnished by the latter; and we do not doubt of his ready Obedience to the Requisition.

Extract of Letter from the Governor General and Council, in their Secret Department, dated 3d February 1781.

—Required from the Rajah of Benares the same Subsidy for the ensuing Year that he paid in the last; One Lack paid immediately, the remaining Four Lacks not paid until the 18th October.

The Assistance of a Body of Cavalry required from him, to be returned at the Conclusion of the War.

(C O P Y.)

Letter from Mr. Hastings, at Benares, to Mr. Wheeler, at Fort William, of 18th August 1781.

The Honourable Edward Wheeler, Esquire, &c. &c. &c. Fort William.

Sir,

I arrived at Benares on 14th Instant.—My Transactions with the Rajah being of a most important Nature to the present and future Interests of the Company, I have determined to inform you of them without Delay, in the Order in which they have occurred.

The first Step which I judged it necessary to take, as the Ground on which my future Proceedings with the Rajah were to be conducted, was to recapitulate in Writing the several Instances of his Conduct, which for some Time past have repeatedly drawn upon him the severe Reprehensions of the Board; and to demand a clear and satisfactory Explanation.—This Paper I sent to the Rajah by the Hands of Mr. Markham, who was directed to require an immediate Answer.

In the Evening his Answer arrived. The following are Copies of both:

“ To Rajah Cheyt Sing.

“ It is about Sixteen Months since Lalah Sadanund, your Buxey and confidential
“ Servant, came to Calcutta, charged with an express Commission and Authority to
“ make Excuses for your past Conduct, and to give me Assurances, confirmed by Oath,
“ of your future Submission to my Advice, and the Orders of my government. As a
“ Test of your Sincerity, I required your immediate and unreserved Acquiescence in the
“ Demand, which at the same Time was made to you, in the Name of the Governor
“ General and Council, of the Subsidy of Five Lacks of Rupees for the Expences of the
“ War.

“ With this Demand you ostensibly complied, in your Answer to my Letter ; and the
 “ Buxey promised me verbally in your Name, and in Terms so strong as amounted to the
 “ fullest Assurance, that there should be no Delay in the Payment. Relying on this
 “ Agreement and Promise, I gave Orders to Mr. Fowke, who was then Resident at
 “ this Place, to receive the Money, and remit it to Colonel Camac for the Pay of the
 “ Army, which had been ordered to march towards the Province of Malva ; and I made
 “ no other Provision for it, such was my Confidence in your Faith : But you deceived
 “ me ; and, after having made the First Payment of a few Rupees, either consulting the
 “ Temper of the Times, or conforming to a premeditated Design, you by Shifts and
 “ Pretexes withheld the Remainder, until the Army, for whose Use it was intended,
 “ was reduced to the last State of Distress. Many Hundreds deserted ; and, had an
 “ Enemy at that Time appeared against them, their Total Destruction had been inevit-
 “ able.

“ In all this Time daily Applications were made to you by the Resident, and I wrote
 “ repeated Letters to you ; but you paid no Regard to either.

“ Besides this, I required, in the Name of the Governor General and Council, by
 “ Letters, and ordered Mr. Fowke to repeat the Requisition in Person, that you should
 “ furnish a Body of Horse to assist and act with the Armies of the Company ; and when
 “ Mr. Markham succeeded Mr. Fowke, I gave him Orders to repeat the Demand ;
 “ which he did accordingly, with frequent and almost daily Importunity, limiting the
 “ Number to 1,500, and afterwards to 1,000. To this Demand you returned evasive
 “ Answers ; nor to this Hour have you contributed a single Horseman.

“ I pass over other Instances of your Conduct, in which, through the Means of your
 “ secret Agents, you have endeavoured to excite Disorders in the Government on which
 “ you depend ; and your Neglect of the Duty which you owe to it, and to the Subjects
 “ of this Zemindary, by suffering the daily Perpetration of Robberies and Murders,
 “ even in the Streets of the City of Benares itself, to the great and public Scandal of
 “ the English Name, and in Violation of one of the Conditions on which you receive
 “ the Confirmation of this Zemindary. But, as the two foregoing Instances amount to
 “ a direct Charge of Disaffection and Infidelity to the Government on which you de-
 “ pend, and happened at a Time in which it was your Duty most especially to have
 “ exerted yourself in the Support of its Interests, I have therefore judged it proper to
 “ state them to you thus fully in Writing, and to require your Answer to them. And
 “ this I expect immediately.”

A N S W E R.

“ I received your Letter delivered to me by Mr. Markham, and I have understood
 “ every Particular of its Contents. Sir, after the Arrival of Sheik Ally Nucky, I ob-
 “ served all the Orders which you sent me ; and I received the Letter which the deceased
 “ Sheik brought me, informing me that every Suspicion was now completely removed
 “ from your Mind, and that I must consider you as formerly attentive to me. But I have
 “ not experienced from you the same Generosities as formerly. I sent you repeatedly
 “ Letters, representing to your Consideration my unhappy Circumstances ; but you ne-
 “ ver honoured me with any Reply. For this Reason I sent my Buxey Sadanund to
 “ your Presence, enjoining him to represent to you the Firmness of my Obedience and
 “ Attachment ; to lay before you the Particulars of my Situation ; and to learn the
 “ Disposition of your Mind towards me. He arrived accordingly in your Presence, and
 “ represented every Thing in a proper Manner. I have never deviated in the smallest
 “ Degree from these Professions ; and the Benefactions and Civilities with which you
 “ have honoured me, have given me the greatest Satisfaction ; and I have considered you
 “ as the Source from which I derive the Fulfilment of all my Wishes and Desires. It
 “ is my firm Hope that I may be always favoured with your Directions. In this Man-
 “ ner I complied, with the utmost Readiness, with the Order you sent me for the Pay-
 “ ment of Five Lacks of Rupees on Account of the War :—I sent first One Lack of Ru-
 “ pees, with an Answer to your Letter ; afterwards, having paid to Mr. Fowke the Sum
 “ of One Lack and Seventy thousand Rupees, I sent a Letter requesting a further Allow-
 “ ance of Time to enable me to make some Preparations. To this I received no Reply
 “ —it being no Time to delay. Notwithstanding this, I was not a Moment inatten-
 “ tive to this Concern, and as soon as my Buxey arrived, I paid immediately the remain-
 “ ing Part of the Sum. The remitting of this to the Army did not depend upon me ;
 “ if any Delay happened on this Head I could not help it. If, besides the Payment of
 “ the Money, the Remittance of it also to the Army had rested with me, a Delay of
 “ this Kind should not have happened. I have enclosed in this Letter a Paper respect-
 “ ing the particular Sums which have been advanced, with their Dates.

“ With respect to the Horse, you desired me, in your Letter, to inform you of what
 “ Number I could afford to station with you. I sent you a particular Account of all that
 “ were in my Service, amounting to One thousand Three hundred Horse, of which se-
 “ veral

“veral were stationed at distant Places; but I received no Answer to this. Mr. Markham delivered me an Order to prepare a Thousand Horse. In Compliance with your Wishes I collected Five hundred Horse, and a Substitute for the Remainder, Five hundred Burkundassies, of which I sent you Information; and I told Mr. Markham that they were ready to go to whatever Place they should be sent. No Answer, however, came from you on this Head, and I remained astonished at the Cause of it. Repeatedly I asked Mr. Markham about an Answer to my Letter about the Horse; but he told me, that he did not know the Reason of no Answer having been sent. I remained astonished.—With respect to the Sepoys, I received first an Order to station Two of my Companies, which I did. I was then desired to give a Tunkhaw for the Payment of the Sepoys, and likewise to pay the Captain; which has been done every Month.

“Excepting Abdullah Beg, who remains with you, and his Attendants, none of my People, either Dependants or Servants, or others in any Shape connected with me, have ever gone to Calcutta. My Enemies, with a View to my Ruin, have made false Representations to you. Now that, happily for me, you have yourself arrived at this Place, you will be able to ascertain all the Circumstances relative to the Horse, to my People going to Calcutta, and the Dates of the Receipts of the particular Sums abovementioned; you will then know whether I have amused you with a false Representation, or made a just Report to you.

“I have given my Aumils most particular Injunctions, and have taken a Penalty Bond from them, that they shall keep no Thieves in their Districts. What Power have they to act otherwise? But if ever a Robbery or Murder is committed in the Country, I have been careful to impale or otherwise punish the Culprit. If a Person having committed a Delinquency should escape to some other Place so as to elude all Discovery, in that case I am helpless; but to the utmost of my Power I endeavour to fulfil your Orders. I have never swerved in the smallest Degree from my Duty to you. It remains for you to decide on all these Matters. I am in every Case your Slave. What was just I have represented to you. May your Prosperity encrease!

“Account of Five Lacks of Rupees advanced for the Expences of the War.

“ 1st Shabaun	—	—	—	—	100,000
“ 29th Ramzaan	—	—	—	—	170,000
“ 7th Showal	—	—	—	—	130,000
“ 18th Showal	—	—	—	—	100,000
					500,000

This Answer you will perceive to be not only unsatisfactory in Substance, but offensive in Stile, and less a Vindication of himself, than a Recrimination upon. It expresses no Concern for the Causes of Complaint contained in my Letter, or Desire to atone for them, nor the smallest Intention to pursue a different Line of Conduct. An Answer couched nearly in Terms of Defiance, to Requisitions of so serious a Nature, I could not but consider as a strong Indication of that Spirit of Independency which the Rajah has for some Years past assumed, and of which indeed I had early observed other manifest Symptoms, both before and from the Instant of my Arrival here.

Under these alarming Appearances of the Rajah's Conduct and Disposition, I conceived myself indispensably obliged to form some immediate and decisive Plan for obviating their Consequence, and for the Preservation of the Company's Rights and Interests in this Zemindary. To have left him in the full Exercise of Powers, which he had notoriously abused, and which it was to be apprehended he would employ to the most dangerous Purposes, was totally inconsistent with the Maxims of Justice and Prudence. To divest him entirely of the Zemindary, though justifiable on the Grounds stated above, would be attended with an Appearance of Severity, and might have furnished Grounds for Constructions unfavourable to the Credit of our Government, and to my own Reputation, from the natural Influence which every Act of Rigour, exercised in the Persons of Men who stand in elevated Stations, is apt to impress on the Minds of those who are too remote from the Scene of Action to judge, by any Evidence but of the direct Facts themselves, of their Motives or Propriety.

Thus circumstanced, and attentive to these opposite Considerations, I laid down the following Plan for my future Proceedings.

I first directed the Resident to repair to the Rajah, who resided at his House, situated on this Side of the River, at the Distance of about Two Miles; and gave him the following Instructions:

“Benares,

“ Benares, 15th August 1781, 10 at Night.

“ To Mr. William Markham, Resident at Benares.

“ Sir,

“ It is my Order, that you proceed early To-morrow Morning to the House of Rajah Cheyt Sing, with your usual Guard, and put him in Arrest. You will require his immediate Submission, informing him, that you act under Orders given you by me; and in case of his Refusal you will wait the Arrival of Two Companies of Sepoys belonging to Major Popham's Detachment, who are directed to follow and assist you in the Execution of this Service. Having secured the Rajah, you will keep him in your Custody until further Orders.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most obedient Servant.

(Signed) “ Warren Hastings.”

On the next Morning Mr. Markham went, according to his foregoing Instructions, and was followed by Two Companies of Grenadier Sepoys belonging to Major Popham's Detachment. The Rajah quietly submitted to the Arrest; and Mr. Markham returned to me with the following Letter from the Rajah, leaving him under the Charge of Lieutenants Stalker, Scott, and Simes. For the Particulars which passed at this Interview, I refer you to the following Report, which Mr. Markham delivered to me on his Return :

Letter from the Rajah.

“ At this Time Mr. William Markham being come to me, has informed me that your Highness's Orders are, that I should remain under a Guard. My Protector, I before represented to you, on board your Pinnace, that I was the Servant of the Honourable Sirkar, and was ready from my Heart and Soul. Whatever may be your Pleasure, do it with your own Hands. I am your Slave; what Occasion can there be for this Guard?”

“ Benares, 16th August 1781.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c. &c.

“ Honourable Sir,

“ I this Morning, in obedience to your Orders of last Night, proceeded with a few of my Orderlies, accompanied by Lieutenant Stalker, to Shewvallah Gaüt, the present Residence of Rajah Cheyt Sing, and acquainted him, it was your Pleasure he should consider himself in Arrest; that he should order his People to behave in a quiet and orderly Manner, for that any Attempt to rescue him would be attended with his own Destruction. The Rajah submitted quietly to the Arrest; and assured me, that whatever were your Orders, he was ready implicitly to obey; He hoped that you would allow him a Subsistence; but as for his Zemindary, his Forts, and Treasure, he was ready to lay them at your Feet, and his Life, if required. He expressed himself much hurt at the Ignominy, which he affirmed must be the Consequence of his Confinement, and intreated me to return to you with the foregoing Submission, hoping that you would make Allowances for his Youth and Inexperience, and, in consideration of his Father's Name, release him from his Confinement as soon as he should prove the Sincerity of his Offers, and himself deserving of your Compassion and Forgiveness.

“ Near a Quarter of an Hour after this Conversation, Lieutenant Scott arrived with the Two Grenadier Companies of Major Popham's Regiment, to whose and Lieutenant Stalker's Care I left the Rajah, having given them the following Instructions:—That they should disarm every Servant of the Rajah's;—that they should allow him any such Eight or Ten Kissmutgars, for the Attendance of his Person, as he should approve of;—that these Men should be shewn to the Sepoys, lest any Deceit should be practised; but that they might indulge him in any Request consistent with the Security of his Person.

“ I am now returned to acquaint you with my Proceedings, and to receive any further Instructions, if you think it necessary.

“ I have the Honour to be,

“ Honourable Sir,

“ Your most obedient humble Servant,

“ William Markham.”

As the Rajah in the above Letter had desired that Mr. Markham might be sent back to him, I was preparing Instructions for that Purpose, when I received another Letter from the Rajah, of which the following is a Translation :

Letter

Letter from the Rajah.

“ I am the Servant of the Sirkar, and am ready from my Heart and Soul in the Performance of your Orders.—My Honour was bestowed on me by your Highness; it depends on you alone to take away, or not take away, the Country out of my Hands. In case my Honour is not left me, how shall I be equal to the Business of the Sirkar? Whoever, with his Hands in a supplicating Posture, is ready with his Life and Property, what Necessity can there be for him to be dealt with in this Way?”

From the apparent Despondency in which these Letters were written, I thought it necessary to give the Rajah some Encouragement; and accordingly wrote him the following Answer:

Letter to the Rajah.

“ I have received your Two Arzies by the Hands of Mr. Markham, and understand their Contents.—That Gentleman will wait upon you in the Afternoon, and explain all Particulars to you.—Set your Mind at Rest, and do not conceive any Terror or Apprehension.”

To this I received the following Reply :

Letter from the Rajah.

“ Your gracious Letter has been received, and has made me acquainted with your Commands. You order that Mr. William Markham will come to me; that I must not suffer any Apprehension to distress me, but remain at Ease in my Mind.—My Protector, wherever you spread your Shadow over my Head, I am entirely free from Concern and Apprehension; and whatever you, who are my Master, shall as such determine, will be right.”

At this Time I had prepared Mr. Markham's Second Instructions; but before he could set out with them, Intelligence came, that large Bodies of armed Men had crossed the River from Ramnagur, and had proceeded to the Rajah's House. What follows is a Scene of such Horror, that it is with the greatest Reluctance I submit to the painful Duty of relating it: The Guard placed over the Rajah consisted of the Two Companies of Grenadier Sepoys, as above-mentioned, from Major Popham's Detachment, and commanded by the Officers already named, who were stationed in an inclosed Square, which surrounded the Apartment where the Rajah was. The Resident's Guard had returned with him. It now appeared that these Troops had taken no Ammunition with them: Major Popham sent another Company of Sepoys, under an Officer, with Ammunition, to reinforce and support the First Party. When the latter arrived at the Rajah's House, they found it surrounded, and all the Avenues blockaded by a Multitude of armed Men, who opposed their Passage. The Minds of this tumultuous Assembly becoming soon inflamed, some of them began to fire upon the Sepoys within the Square; and immediately, as if this had been the concerted Signal, the whole Multitude rushed in, and made an instantaneous and fierce Attack upon the Sepoys, who, wanting their accustomed Means of Defence, were capable of making but a feeble Resistance, and fell an easy Sacrifice to the superior Numbers of the Assailants, who cut almost every Man of this unfortunate Party to Pieces. The Officers, it is supposed, were the First Victims to their Fury; but not until they had, by astonishing Efforts of Bravery, and undismayed amidst the imminent Danger which surrounded them, involved a much superior Number of their Enemies in their Fate: In this general Report of them all Accounts concur, though varying in Circumstances: I yield to my own Feelings in bestowing this just, but unavailing Tribute, to these unhappy Gentlemen. In the Midst of this Confusion, the Rajah found Means to escape through a Wicket which opened to the River; and the Banks being exceedingly steep in that Place, he let himself down by Turbans tied together, into a Boat which was waiting for him, and conveyed him to the opposite Shore; Those who had effected his Escape, followed him across the River, in the same tumultuous Manner in which they had assembled, leaving the Party of our Sepoys which had last arrived, in the Possession of the House.

On the first Intelligence of this Commotion, I had directed Major Popham to repair immediately to his Camp, which was about Two Miles from the Resident's, and at the same same Distance from the Rajah's House; and to march instantly with the Remainder of his Detachment to the Support of the Party. This Order was executed with all possible Expedition; but Major Popham arrived too late, and had the Mortification to be a Spectator of the Effects of a Massacre which he could neither prevent nor revenge—He returned to me immediately, and made the following Report.

Report of Major Popham.

" Consequent to an Order for the Detachment under my Command to proceed to the Support of the Grenadier Companies under Lieutenant Stalker, I carried it with as much Expedition as possible to Adjet Sing's Palace, which I found to be entirely evacuated by the Rajah's People, who were already landed on the opposite Side of the River.

" Of the Two Companies commanded by Lieutenant Stalker very few remained alive, and the Majority of those appeared to be severely wounded. The Bodies of Lieutenant Stalker, Scott, and Simes, were lying within a small Distance of each other, shockingly mangled and without any Signs of Life.

" It may be necessary to observe, that Lieutenant Burrell was dispatched with One Company of Sepoys upon the first Rumour of the Rajah's coercive Intentions, but the Fate of the Companies which preceded him was decided prior to his being able to enter the Palace. There were, however, some of the Rajah's People whom he effectually cleared it of. In his Attack he met with some Loss.

" My utmost Endeavours have hitherto proved insufficient to procure an exact Detail of the Killed and Wounded in this unfortunate Transaction.

" I thought it necessary to leave a Company with a Subaltern in the Palace.

" Benares,

" William Popham,

" 16th August 1781.

" Major."

I cannot learn with Certainty what is become of the Rajah, but the prevailing Report is, that he fled from Ramnagar, his usual Residence on the other Side of River, in the Middle of the Night, and proceeded with his Zenana and Effects to Lutteefgur, a strong Fort of his, situated about Ten Miles from Chunar. He was accompanied by Sujan Sing his Brother, and Munyar Sing a Relation and Son by Adoption of Rajah Bulwant Sing. He has also had the Precaution to take with him Rana Golabkoober, the Widow of Rajah Bulwant Sing, his Father, her Son-in-Law, Durbijey Sing, and his Two Sons, her Grandsons.

In them he possesses every Member of his Family who can have any Plea to dispute with him the Right of Inheritance from his Father Rajah Bulwant Sing, if that were ever a Question. His Right to the Zemindary being derived exclusively from Sunnuds which his Father never possessed, but which were first granted to Cheyt Sing by the late Vizier Sujah ul Dowlah, through the Influence of our Government, in the Year 1773, and since repeated by similar Grants from our Government, when the Sovereignty was ceded to the Company by the present Nabob Asoph ul Dowla.

I have made Choice of Baboo Posaun Sing, who held the Office of Devan during several Years of the Life of Rajah Bulwant Sing, for a considerable Period since the Accession of the present Rajah, to administer the Revenues and Government of this Country, in the Quality of Naib, until it can be determined to whom the Zemindary may legally belong, and who may be in a Capacity to receive it.

To this Effect I have caused a Proclamation to be made through the City of Benares, and have notified it by circular Perwannas to all the Zemindars and Aumils of the Zemindary.

To enforce the Execution of these Acts, to maintain Tranquillity and Order in the Country, and protect the Inhabitants, I have ordered One Battalion of Sepoys from Chunar, the Remainder of Major Popham's Detachment from Mirzapoor, and a Regiment of Sepoys from Dinapoor, to march immediately to Benares.

The Detail of these Proceedings shall be transmitted to you in a subsequent Letter. I do not expect they will detain me here much beyond the Time I had prescribed to myself, which was about Seven or Eight Days.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Esteem,

Benares,

Sir,

17th August 1781.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

Warren Hastings.

P. S. The Delay occasioned in copying this Letter, from its great Length, has afforded me an Opportunity of contradicting the latter Part of it; and I have now the Satisfaction to add, that Ranny Golabkoo, together with her Son-in-Law Durbejey Sing, and his Two Sons, are safe at Benares.

I have this Morning received a Visit from Durbijey Sing, and his eldest Son Myep Narain.

(Signed)

W. H.

Benares,
the 18th August 1781.

A true Copy,

J. P. Auriol,

Secy.

SEL. COM. REP. II.

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Letter

Letter from the Governor General, at Benares, dated 29th September 1781, to Mr. Wheeler.

To Edward Wheeler, Esquire.

Sir,

I have had the Honour to inform you in various and successive Letters of my Transactions, and of the Occurrences which have befallen me since my Departure from Calcutta, and especially since my Arrival at this Place on the 14th of last Month. It is my Intention to employ the first Hours of my Leisure in drawing up a detailed Narrative of the latter for your Information; in the mean Time I shall continue to advise you, from Time to Time, of such Circumstances of Moment as occur in the Course of daily Business, both for your Information, and for the Means of obtaining your Sentiments upon them for my Assistance and Guidance. I deem it a Misfortune, that not one of your Letters, written with the Knowledge of the late Troubles, have reached me, and I much fear that many of mine may have miscarried; for which Reason, I shall cause to be transcribed Copies of all written since the 16th of last Month, and shall transmit them to you.

Left my Letters, advising you of our late Successes, should have been intercepted, I think it proper to repeat in this the Substance of them.

The Arrival of the Detachment from Caunpore, under Major Crabb, of the 10th Instant, and of Major Roberts on the 13th, enabled Major Popham to take the Field with a considerable Force.

It was publickly expected that his first Attempt would be made upon Ramnagar; but such Information having been given of the State of the Two Fortresses of Lutteespoor and Pateeta, as seemed to promise the certain and immediate Reduction of those Places; he accordingly formed his Army into Two Detachments, one commanded by Major Crabb, consisting of the First Battalion of the Sixth Regiment, the Seventh Regiment, the Battalion of the Nabob's Body Guard, commanded by Lieutenant Polhill, with Six 6 Pounders, and One 5½ Inch Howitzer; and the other under his own Command, consisting of the Nineteenth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-fifth Regiments, Two Companies of European Infantry, the Corps of Rangers, and about Thirty Artillery, with Six 6 Pounders, Two 8½ Inch Howitzers, and an 8 Inch Mortar. The First Detachment marched on the Night of the 15th, by a large Circuit, through almost impracticable Ways: But the Spirit of the Officers and Men surmounted every Difficulty. In Places where the Guns could not be drawn by Bullocks, the Sepoys lifted them up the Rocks; and at length, on the Morning of the 20th, they arrived at the Heights lying behind and above the Fort of Lutteespoor, at a Place called Lora, which commands a Pass descending to Lutteespoor, and reputed inaccessible against Opposition, but from above. The profound Secrecy with which this Expedition was undertaken, and to which the Security of the Enemy, in a Region so unfrequented, not a little contributed, prevented any Opposition to our Troops in the different Parts of their Route. Their first Movement only, but neither their Strength nor Destination was known till their very near Approach.

At Lora they met a Body of 2,000 of the Enemy, which they defeated and dispersed with little Loss on our Side, but on theirs of 200 Men killed on the Spot.—The next Morning they took Possession of the Pass, and of the Fort of Lutteespoor, which they found evacuated.

In the mean Time Major Popham marched with his Part of the Forces on the Morning of the 16th to Pateeta, a Place in Consideration in itself, being a fortified Stone House within a very high Rampart, and a Ditch of great Depth, and the Town which is of great Extent surrounded by Intrenchments.—These being all obscured from Observation by Trees and thick Bushes, he judged it not adviseable to attempt an immediate Assault upon the Place, which fortunately proved the Cause of a concurrent Success in both Enterprizes, almost in the same Instant of Time; for in the Morning of the 20th he stormed and took Pateeta, at the same Time defeated and dispersed Two Bodies of the Enemy that made an Attempt on his Camp. And on the same Day, and on the same Hour, Major Crabb fought and gained the Battle of Lora, which was the immediate and eventual Cause of the Capture of Lutteespoor.

The News of these combined Successes alarmed the Rajah to such a Degree, that he instantly fled by a distant Route over the Hills from Lutteespoor, which till that Time had been his capital Residence, regaining the Road of Bidjeygur, the only direct Way to it being through the Pass above mentioned.

The Consternation of his Followers was so great, and its Contagion so rapid, that in a few Hours the Fort or Palace of Ramnagar, and the Fortress of Sutteesgur, were wholly abandoned and evacuated.

Major Balfour marched on the 22d, and took Possession of Ramnagar.

On the Morning of the 25th I parted from the Nabob, who set out on that Afternoon on his Return to his Capital. It is but Justice to the Nabob to declare, that on the first Intelligence of these Troubles, notwithstanding my repeated and pressing Injunctions to return to Lucknow, he prosecuted his March to Benares, with only a few Companies

panies of Sepoys and 100 Horse at that Time attending him, and has in every other Instance given the strongest Proofs of his Fidelity and Attachment. In the Evening I departed from Chunar, and on the next Morning arrived at Ramnagar. My Stay there being unnecessary, and it having been represented to me that my Presence at Benares would be a Means of quieting the Minds of its Inhabitants, I accordingly returned hither Yesterday Morning, and had the Happiness to find the City restored to a State of perfect Order and Tranquillity.

I have issued Proclamations offering Pardon to all who shall quietly return to their Obedience, excepting the Persons of Cheyt Sing and his Brother Sujah Sing, whom their late rebellious Conduct and their Rancour manifested to our Nation, in the deliberate Murder of many of our Soldiers, and even unarmed Passengers who had the Misfortune to fall into their Hands, have precluded from every Title to Lenity.

The Persons standing next in the Line of Inheritance of the Zemindary, were Ranny Goolaub Koower the Widow of Rajah Bulwant Sing, their Daughter married to Bauboo Durbijey Sing, and Bauboo Meyipnarain their Grandson by the Two latter. By the Concurrence of the Two First Parties, and in consequence of a written Acknowledgment made by the Ranny of the Right of her Grandson Meyipnarain, I have nominated him to the Succession of the Rauge, and have appointed the Morning of To-morrow for his Investiture.

I have forbore any particular Comments in this Place, reserving them, where they will be more properly introduced, for my more detailed Narrative. Yet I cannot suppress, without a Violence to my own Feelings, the Testimony which is due especially from me to the unexampled Zeal and public Spirit of all our Officers, and the wonderful Activity with which their Qualities were displayed on the late Occasion. I have already acknowledged the early Exertions which were made by Colonel Blair during my former short and calamitous Residence at Benares. Of Major Popham I cannot say sufficient to express my Sense of his Services. Though my Letters were every where intercepted, Colonel Morgan, with a Decision and Solitude that reflect equal Credit upon his Character, detached Major Crabb, with his Party, to my Assistance. On the First and instant Rumour of my Situation, Colonel Sir John Cumming, with the like Alacrity, obeyed the Orders of his March to Cawnpore; as did Colonel Ahmuty in the immediate Dispatch of Major Crawford, and the Troop of Cavalry. The same Spirit animated every Officer of every Corps, and infused itself into the Men under their Command, with an Effect so far exceeding the common Occurrences of human Affairs, that in the complete Space of One Month, this great and valuable Province, which had been unexpectedly and wholly lost, was in Substance wholly recovered to the British Empire.

I have the Honour to be

Benares,
29th September 1781.

Your most obedient
humble Servant,
(Signed) Warren Hastings.

A true Copy,
J. P. Auriol,
Secretary.

Your Committee must here remark, that the Resolution to make a formal Demand on Rajah Cheyt Sing, to raise and maintain Three Battalions of Sepoys during the present War, was made on the Ninth of July 1778; and that on the Seventeenth of August following, the Governor General and Council resolve, That the Sum of Five Lacks of Muckledar Rupees be fixed as the Subsidy to be paid by Rajah Cheyt Sing, for the Maintenance of those Three Battalions of Sepoys; and on the same Day the Governor General and Council advise the Court of Directors of this Resolution: But Your Committee do not find that the Court of Directors sent any Orders whatsoever to Bengal relative to this important Subject.



